

Dear Room 13 Families,

Here's a quick update for the week of 9/16-9/20.

Tomorrow is a regular schedule. No early dismissal until next week (9/27). Homework is due tomorrow! Please take the new homework packet out of your golden folder and put the completed homework packet in. I hope to check through each student's work and have a few comments for you by Thursday.

Our first "Doozer" test is tomorrow. I honestly think I am just going to say spelling test all year. I don't find it fear inducing, so I hope the kids don't either. They seem excited about it. Anyway, if I don't get those results to you by tomorrow, they'll be ready by Monday.

Apple Day is coming! Volunteers are ready to help paint t-shirts this Monday and Tuesday, so please send your child's t-shirt in ASAP. Please write your child's name on the tag to help us easily keep track of which shirt goes to which student. On Friday, we will have apple-themed centers to cap off the fun.

Volunteers: Thank you for signing up for volunteering at Back To School Night. Thanks to Mrs. Norton for organizing everything! We still have a need for a class photographer and art, music, and science docents. The in-class volunteer sign-ups that I sent home in the First Grade Questionnaire during Week 1 pretty much went out the window when the Early Bird/Late Bird schedule started. Several time slots that parents selected did not match with their child's new schedule. Right now, I'm looking for a few volunteers to help assemble October journals and decodable books. This might be easier to do in class rather than sending home because it is quite a bit of bulk. If you are available from 8:10-9:10 or 1:50-2:50 next week, let me know. I'll just try to make sure we don't have a ton of volunteers on the same day. Very soon, I'll look for volunteers to read aloud with students one-on-one and to help find reading levels for our class library books.

Language arts: We almost wrapped up one-on-one assessments. I have a few more to go, which I should complete tomorrow. We extended our poetry study by looking at nursery rhymes. Ask your child to sing a few. Next week, we will move onto reading fictional stories.

Math: We finished up our introduction to addition chapter. Now we're getting an overview of subtraction. Students should be familiar with the following vocabulary: subtraction, take away, how many are left, difference, minus (--), is equal to (=).

Science: We learned about the parts of plants and the jobs they do. Roots, stems/trunks, leaves, and flowers/fruit each have a role in helping the plant grow. We read Leaf Man by Lois Ehlert and then made our own leaf collages.

Social Studies: We read an awesome book called Have You Filled A Bucket Today by Carol McCloud (<http://www.bucketfillers101.com/>). The students each have their own bucket, and they have been writing the nicest notes to their peers to become "bucket fillers," not "bucket dippers."

Specials: We still have a handful of students forgetting their library books. Our day is Monday, right after recess. Make sure their book is in their backpack so they can check

out a new treasure. In music, Mr. Wulff extended last week's name song by adding action movements to represent each child. Great stuff! In the computer lab, Mrs. Bentz showed us the other half of the new Common Core First Grade games on Starfall.com for language arts. In art, students mixed primary colors to make secondary colors on their very own fish color wheels.

Important dates:

Friday, Sept. 20: Blue PTA Directory Confirmation Forms Due (I have 18 out of 19 returned.)

Tuesday, Sept. 24: PCR Robotics Club Meeting (3:00 – 4:00 pm; MPR), Site Council Meeting (3:15 pm, Library)

Wednesday, Sept. 25: Garden Committee Meeting (7:00, MPR)

Thursday, Sept. 26: Dads Committee Meeting (7:00 pm, MPR)

Friday, Sept. 27: ***COLLABORATION DAY (8:10 AM ARRIVAL, 12:45 PM DISMISSAL)***, Spirit Rally (9:35 am; Lower Playground), Apple Day activities, Flu Shot Clinic (3:00 pm – 5:00 pm, Library), Gift Wrap Sales End

As always, contact me with any questions. Enjoy your Friday and weekend!

-Meredith Beyer
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