

Greetings, Room 13 Families!

I hope you are all doing well. Here's a quick update for the week of 9/23-9/27.

New Homework—The First Grade Team will now be delivering homework packets digitally. Look for a PDF file attached to the weekly update each Thursday. You will not receive a hard copy in the golden folders. I am notorious for forgetting to actually attach, so let me know if I slip up. Homework will still be due on Fridays (a week and a day after you receive it).

Collaboration/Spirit Day is TOMORROW! Early AND late birds will attend school from 8:10-12:45. Congratulations to Amanda, Haven, and Tait, who will be honored for displaying our character trait "support" during the month of September. Great job!

Apple Day is TOMORROW! Send your "good apple" wearing their t-shirts tomorrow.

"Doozer Test" is TOMORROW! Get one last night of practice in!

Decodable books—Look for four new decodable books coming in the golden folders today. Sorry for the delay!

Completed Homework—Last week's homework is coming home in the golden folders today. I tried to leave a few comments for every student. In general, I noticed these areas for improvement: Use neat penmanship. Always use a pencil in order to erase mistakes. Always trace the guided practice activities, even if they are super easy. Parents, always read the directions to your child, even if they are completing the activities independently. Parents, feel free to supplement the homework with activities, if needed.

Volunteers—I now have regular volunteers during Early Bird time on Wednesdays and during Late Bird time on Tuesdays and Thursdays. If you would like to come work with students, too, let me know what day works well for you. Email our room rep Katie Norton if you would like to volunteer for special events.

Language arts: This week we read a few folktales and a few fictional stories. Folktales often teach the reader a lesson, have been retold over many years, feature characters that can be animals or objects, and may begin with "Once upon a time." Works of fiction do not happen in real life. They come from the author's imagination. Try this rhyming riddle at home: What starts with /c/ and rhymes with lake? We also worked on segmenting phonemes, sorting words by beginning sounds, and blending c-v-c words.

Math: We subtracted all ($5-5=0$), and we subtracted zero ($5-0=5$). We found patterns when subtracting from the same number ($8-8=0$, $8-7=1$, $8-6=2$, etc.). We can write subtraction sentences horizontally and vertically. We looked at trickier story problems that compare. Instead of asking, "How many are left?" they may ask, "How many more ___ are there than ___?"

Science/Social Studies: Tying in with Apple Week, we labeled the parts of an apple (stem, leaf, skin, flesh, core, seeds). We cut an apple in half horizontally to see the apple's secret star, and we predicted what might happen if we leave the cut apple

out for a long time. We painted apple trees through the seasons, and we sequenced the life cycle of an apple. We also read and wrote about John Chapman, a.k.a. Johnny Appleseed.

Specials: Students are doing a great job of responsibly checking out books. A handful are still forgetting their books on Monday mornings! In the computer lab, we checked out BrainPopJr. to hear about Johnny Appleseed, parts of a plant, and fall. During music, Mr. Wulff taught us a new dancing song.

Important dates:

-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

-Saturday, Sept. 28: Wellness Celebration at Verdugo Hills Hospital

-Wednesday, Oct. 2: PTA association meeting (7:15 pm)

-Oct. 21-24: Parent Conferences (I will send appointment reminders home soon...I still need to schedule a handful more.)

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

-Meredith Beyer

mbeyer@lcsd.net

<https://mrsbeyersfirstgrade201314.shutterfly.com/>