

December 13, 2019
Homework Packet #13

Dear Parents,

The field trip to the Coronado was an unmitigated success!!! I am so proud of all of your children! Their behavior was stupendous. Almost everyone was in theater clothes and looked so beautiful/dapper. Afterwards, I realized that I didn't take as many pictures of them as I would have liked. If any of the chaperones have pictures you would like to share, please pass them on to me! The children had been preparing for the event all week with lessons on the Nutcracker, ballet, orchestra, the history/architecture of the Coronado, and being an excellent audience member. I looked around the audience and our kids behavior both before, during, and after the performance was superior to those around us. They understood what they were seeing and really appeared to/and said that they enjoyed it. I was absolutely delighted with the whole excursion. I hope that everyone else on the trip felt the same way. Thank you all again for making this such a wonderful and engaging experience.

I informed the kids about the online grade book and showed them the assignments I have entered into it. I also told them that their parents can see their grades and any missing assignments. When I showed a student all the blank spaces next to his name, I said "now how are you going to explain this to your Mom? ...You owe me a bunch of work..." He said "I am going to tell her you must not have entered my work on the page yet..." That comment made me start thinking...I should tell the parents my grading process. When I enter an assignment, I make sure to put all of the grades in at one time. If something comes in late it may take me a day or two to enter it in the gradebook. If you have any questions about whether or not I have an assignment that I have not yet entered into the gradebook, please contact me and I will be happy to check. Remember, each of you has your own login and password to see your child's grades. If you need your login and password you may call the Cherry Valley office (815.332.4938) and acquire that information.

In math we will be completing our units on addition, subtraction, and rounding to the nearest ten, and rounding to the nearest hundred before winter break. After break we will return to multiplication. In reading we are working on visualization, cause and effect, and compare and contrast. We have finished working on magnetism and now are working on force and motion. This week we will be building a rollercoaster and next week we will be using two Legos Lessons on gears and wheels to explore force and motion.

The children have been receiving and reading a monthly news magazine called Kind News. It is a RedRover publication of the American Humane Society and has been donated to our class by the PAWS Humane Society. If you know anyone on the Board of PAWS please thank them for this wonderful publication. If you have an opportunity to donate to this worthwhile organization, please consider doing so.

Looking ahead... Winter Break begins at 2:00 pm December 21st and lasts until January 1st. The children need to come back to school on Thursday, January 2nd. MAP testing will begin the week of January 13th.

I am not going to send a letter or a packet home next week on December 20th. This will be a short, busy break. I want us to be able to enjoy our families and the break from school. Please do keep reading every day for at least 20 minutes. I am enclosing a January calendar to start you out on reading for next month. I am also enclosing the non-fiction book report form for the non-fiction book report which is due January 31st. Additionally, because the week we return to school is only two days, I probably will not be sending home a letter on January 3rd. I am anticipating that there will not be a lot of new information in those two days. I will definitely not be sending home a homework packet on January 3. The next letter and homework packet will come out on January 10th.

Have a great weekend and winter break!

Thank You, Betsy Burgoyne