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Sent: Sunday, January 30, 2022 16:57
Cc: Lynn Barras <Lynn.Barras@KeysSchools.com>
Subject: Sea Turtle Times!

Good afternoon Sea Turtle Families,

I hope that everybody is keeping warm in this *Freeeeezing* weather! ;D

In the last few weeks, we the Sea Turtles have enjoyed some very special moments:

- Celebrated Roland's 9th Walk Around the Sun!
- Visited the STEM Science Fair hosted by our talented Upper Elementary and Secondary Program students.
- Our Field trip to the STKW featured local artist Christopher Santoro who created beautiful digitalized and abstract pieces. The kids were particularly drawn to the Dancing Fruits collection and asked Mr. Christopher many questions during our conversation via Zoom chat. We then headed up to the roof of the building, where we all took in the breathtaking views and the kids sketched a story using their very own fruit/vegetable-themed characters.
- Welcome Mr. Tom Muro, who has recently joined our school community as a Dynamic Classroom Support Guide/Substitute! Mr. Tom is wonderful to have around and the kids love the end-of-day sing alongs - I think we all had, "The 7 Days of the Week" song by, They Might Be Giants, stuck in our heads! 😊

Last week, we celebrated both Literacy and National School Choice Week and engaged in some fun activities. Everyday we focused on a special reading or writing activity and here are some examples;

- I read my very own (non-published) book that I wrote back when I was in the 6th grade entitled, *Far Away Places*.
- After discussing the main parts of a book, we began getting our ideas out on paper to begin our very own story-books. So far, we are still working on rough drafts!
- Mrs. Sue Woltanski from the District School Board passed by as a special guest and read aloud to our Lower Elementary friends some all-time favorites, *The Lorax* by Dr. Seuss and a couple of Shel Silverstein poems. Thank you, Sue! (*Photo in ST Album)
- On Thursday, our older Upper Elementary friends invited their Lower Elementary schoolmates to read in small groups. It was such a lovely experience to witness! (Photo in ST Album)

Star Assessments

Last week and this week, we continue another round of Star Assessments focusing on Math and Reading. We will discuss your child's results during our upcoming conferences.

Student/Parent/Teacher Conferences

Please be ready to sign up to meet with me for Student/Parent/Teacher Conferences coming in the next set of early release days, February 11th and February 18th. You have the option to meet with me in person here at school or online via Google meet. I kindly ask that you let me know what your choice will be in advance so that I can have an idea of how to plan accordingly - thank you! I will provide the Sign-Up Genius link below and will include a Google Meet link to all meeting slots even if you decide to join me in person. Please note, that Child-care during these days is available only for your scheduled conference time.

Sign Up Genius Link:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090E49A5A628A1FE3-seaturtle1>

GeoBee

For this year's GeoBee school fundraiser, the Lower Elementary program has decided to study the planetary solar system. Based on your child's grade level, they will either be responsible for pointing out, identifying and/or labeling all of the planets. Specific details about the GeoBee can be found in the handout that was sent home in your child's Communication Folder. Any further questions, please feel free to reach out to me.

Important Dates

- Come and dance at our **Red Party** school event, **Tuesday, February 9th at 6pm.**
- Early Release Fridays: Feb. 11th & Feb. 18th for conferences. February 25, is also an early release day
- February 21 - No School on **Presidents Day**

Classroom Service

As always, we welcome parent helpers and your participation is very important to the success of the classroom community.

The following list covers areas that are very much in need of parental TLC:)

- serious carpet cleaning
- 1 bag ReptiBark from Pet Supermarket or 2 for much cheaper on Amazon (link below)
- beautiful indoor potted plants
- 20 minute read aloud (once per week)
- 15min gardening/harvesting (once per week)
- Reorganizing the 'Middle Space' area of art supplies
- Show support to the Sea Turtle Amazon Wish

List: https://smile.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/dl/invite/9dxonSO?ref_=wl_share

Please contact me if you would like to help immediately with any of the above, or if you have any other way to contribute to the class, let me know.

I greatly appreciate you all.

Keep warm and stay cozy,

Zurima Cisneros

Classroom Lead Guide

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