Dear Families, October 15, 2013

**CONFERENCES:**  Check on Sign up genius for your conference time. I hear it sends the end time as the start time. Please double check your start time for you conference. If you are unable to make your time please call me ASAP to reschedule. I look forward to meeting with each of you to talk about how amazing your child is.

**Handwriting:** Please have your child complete their homework legibly. Make sure they write neatly and take the time to form all letters correctly. When they practice writing their spelling words again make sure it is neat and that they are forming the letters correctly. I will begin to grade harder on handwriting. I have started to make notes on their work and tests where letters were not formed correctly. If you could also support these efforts I would greatly appreciate it.

**Wordly Wise**….. This week, the children are to complete assignments 9A-C in their books and the passage portion which is D for book 2 and E for book 3. **I now am challenging the children since they are doing so well at restating the questions to now use the vocabulary words in your answer.**

***For Example….* Advice is the vocabulary word……… Example below**

***Question: Name two helpful suggestions about doing magic tricks that you learned from the story? Two tips of advice for doing magic tricks is never miss a chance to make people laugh and keep talking through each step.***

**Math:** This week in class we will review and continue working on quarter skills. The kids are continuing to work on workstations which will review all of our skills for the quarter. We will continue to work on area and perimeter, arrays, regrouping and borrowing to the thousand and across zeros and finding missing digits to make an equation true. We will work with money and making change from $20.00. That will help with regrouping across zeros as well. We will be working on expressions that go with and match a word problem and could help them solve word problems. We will continue to work on word problems and use our 4-Step Plan of understand, plan, solve and check (UPSC).

After reviewing the first week we had a range of 8 minutes to 60 minutes of use and an average 19 or more assignments were completed on TenMarks. Great job! I would like to see 5 to 10 minutes of work A DAY. There will be **NO** math paper this week for the students to complete I will monitor the website and see if the kids went on and what assignments were completed. They will work on this program this week during computer lab time as well. I sent home the letter and log in information last Monday with each child. Have fun and I think the kids will really enjoy this over paper pencil (though I may still at times send some papers home, but for the next couple weeks let’s just work on Ten Marks) Ten Marks is correlated to common core. I can go on-line to view their progress and successes as well as struggles. Have fun! AGAIN, this week the the kids are required to get on for 5 to 10 minutes A DAY (or more, if you love it) and complete as many assignments they can in that time limit. I will be able to log-in and see how long they worked and how many problems were completed.

**Reading:** Please have your child read nightly. For reading, I expect 20/20, either 20 pages or 20 minutes. Let them pick a book that they enjoy. If your child reads on RAZ kids for 20 minutes that is fine as well (PLEASE USE RAZ KIDS IT IS A USEFUL TOOL FOR COMPREHENSION).

BOOK-IT – Came home last Monday. Since your child is already reading nightly fill it in with 15 completed books by October 31st and your child will receive a coupon for a free kid’s pizza from Pizza Hut. They may log chapters and pages but do try to read some great nonfiction books as well.

We will continue reading Shiloh. We are still reading our short story called “How the Camel got His Hump” and a new poem called “Swing Song” by A.A. Milne. We are using Bear Essential newspapers to find Main Ideas and details in a nonfiction passage. I will continue to focus instruction on Main Idea and Supporting Details over the next couple weeks and inferencing skills as well.

**Social Studies: Maps and timelines –** We are working on maps and mapping skills and we created a salt dough map of our bedrooms last week and the kids will paint their bedrooms and hopefully bring them home this week. We will continue working on timelines of China’s history as well as American history timelines. Great job Kids on the timeline assignments they look amazing. I can’t wait to hear you present them.

**Box Tops:** Please send in box tops. The class with the most box tops wins a party. Thank you to the many families that have sent some in.

**Timeline of important events in your family:** Timeline activity was due on October 15th.

Let’s have another amazing week!!!

Thank you,

Mrs. Hoffman Diaz

My website if you have not visited it: http://mrshoffmandiaz.weebly.com/

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| **Monday** | **Tuesday** | **Wednesday** | **Thursday** | **Friday** |
| 14  No school | 15  Homework  Spelling  Wordly Wise  Math/Web  Reading 20/20  TIMELINE ACTIVITY DUE  CONFERENCES BEGIN | 16  Homework  Spelling  Wordly Wise  Math/Web  Reading 20/20  **Conferences** | 17  ½ Day 12:05 dismissal  Homework  Spelling  Wordly Wise  Math/Web  Reading 20/20  CONFERENCES | 18  ½ day 12:05 dismissal  Turn-In  Wordly Wise  Reading Web  CONFERENCES |

**Important Dates:**

Field Trip on December 17th at 10:00a.m. a holiday play for Young Audiences of *The Elves and the Shoemaker.* (I know many of you may want to attend we can only have 10 parents join us and no siblings may attend.) More information will come home soon. Please don’t contact me about joining I will send the information home when I have it. If more than 10 parents volunteer I will put names in a hat and draw 10 out.

**Looking Ahead**

October 15th - 18th - Parent Teacher Conferences  
October 16th - Kindergarten Early Release  
October 17-18 -Early Release at 12:05

December 17th at 10:00 Field trip - More information to follow...