Dear Families, October 21, 2013

Class Shirts: THANK YOU Mrs. Gonzales they look amazing and I appreciate all your hard work and time you have put in to make the shirts look amazing.

**CONFERENCES:**  Thank you to everyone for coming to conferences it was wonderful to sit and speak to each of you about your child.

**HIGHLAND LAKES SCIENCE FAIR 2013**

**Registration and registration due dates**

Fill out one entry form per project. If entering as a team,(no more than 3 to a team) please enter all names and the name of the teacher who will be collecting your entry forms. The entry form is available from your teacher. **Your entry form must be returned to your teacher by Monday, October 28, 2013.**

**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. If you could also support these efforts I would greatly appreciate it.

**Wordly Wise**….. This week, the children are to complete assignments 10A-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 we start 2nd quarter skills. The kids are continuing to work on workstations which will review all of our skills from last quarter and our new skills for 2nd quarter. We will work with money more this quarter, measurement and making change. That will help with regrouping across zeros as well. We will be working on expressions that go with and match a word problem and continue working on continental math. We will continue to work on word problems and use our 4-Step Plan of understand, plan, solve and check (UPSC) in the classroom.

Ten Marks…. I received lots of positive feedback about Ten Marks and majority love it. After looking at the scores the kids are doing a great job! The skills will change on the 25th of October so continue with this week’s assignments. Reminder: 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 work on. They will work on this program this week during computer lab time as well. Ten Marks is correlated to common core and will be good practice for when we take our math tests online in December. Have fun! 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). RAZ-kids login is under teacher: phoffmandiaz then just find your child’s name.

**BOOK-IT** –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 start Chapter 2 and Chapter 3 Shiloh this week. We will finish our short story called “How the Camel got His Hump” and our 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 review Main Idea and Supporting Details over the next couple weeks and inferencing skills. We will focus our instruction on comparing and contrasting within a story and well as analyzing our character traits.

**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, they will be presenting their bedrooms this week. The kids did a great job on making the dough and recreating and labeling their room. Bedroom maps will come home as they present and are graded. We will continue working on timelines of China’s history as well as American history timelines. Family Timeline presentations were amazing and the interview questions were great. All of the kids were so excited to present and share their family history with the class. EVERYONE did an amazing job.

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** |
| 21  Homework  Spelling  Wordly Wise  Math/Web  Reading 20/20 | 22  Homework  Spelling  Wordly Wise  Math/Web  Reading 20/20 | 23  Homework  Spelling  Wordly Wise  Math/Web  Reading 20/20 | 24  Homework  Spelling  Wordly Wise  Math/Web  Reading 20/20 | 25  Homework Due  Wordly Wise  Reading Web |

**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**

* **Oct 21** [PJ Spirit Day](http://www.dvusd.org/site/Default.aspx?PageID=36&PageType=17&DomainID=21&ModuleInstanceID=21&EventDateID=35403)
* **Oct 21** 4:30 PM [Cross Country Championships @ Anthem Park](http://www.dvusd.org/site/Default.aspx?PageID=36&PageType=17&DomainID=21&ModuleInstanceID=21&EventDateID=35409)
* **Oct 22** [Twin or Group Spirit Day](http://www.dvusd.org/site/Default.aspx?PageID=36&PageType=17&DomainID=21&ModuleInstanceID=21&EventDateID=35404)
* **Oct 22** 4:15 PM [8th Grade Girls' Volleyball Semi-Final Game @ Bear's Den](http://www.dvusd.org/site/Default.aspx?PageID=36&PageType=17&DomainID=21&ModuleInstanceID=21&EventDateID=35410)
* **Oct 23** [Neon Spirit Day](http://www.dvusd.org/site/Default.aspx?PageID=36&PageType=17&DomainID=21&ModuleInstanceID=21&EventDateID=35405)
* **Oct 24** [HLS Spirt Wear Color Day](http://www.dvusd.org/site/Default.aspx?PageID=36&PageType=17&DomainID=21&ModuleInstanceID=21&EventDateID=35406)
* **Oct 24** [Picture Retake Day](http://www.dvusd.org/site/Default.aspx?PageID=36&PageType=17&DomainID=21&ModuleInstanceID=21&EventDateID=35407)
* **Oct 25 Tie Day (wear a tie)**
* **Oct 28 Science fair Entry Form DUE**
* December 17th at 10:00 Field trip - More information to follow...