Dear Families, October 28, 2013

**FYI: I will be out on Tuesday (tomorrow). Please remind your children how important it is to behave for a substitute. I appreciate the support.**

**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 TODAY. It is a requirement that all Renaissance students participate in an experimental project done completely at home.**

**FALL PARTY:** Please see attached form for information regarding our party. It will take place on Thursday from 1:45-2:40 as we have Music class from 2:45-3:30.

**Snacks:** I am okay with the children bringing in snacks to munch on after lunch. Snacks need to be healthy and be cautious of our peanut and blueberry allergies. Candies, chocolate or cookies will not be allowed in class. **ALSO** please do not send your child with anything other than water (not flavored) to the classroom. They may have whatever you prefer in their lunch box but inside our classroom, water only please. Again, if they brought it in their lunch box they will only be allowed to enjoy it in the cafeteria, not in our classroom.

**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 11A-C in their books and the passage portion which is D for book 2 and E for book 3. We are almost finished with our first book. I have been asked by some parents and NO this is not the end of Wordly Wise we will start the next number books.

**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. We will focus on Money and making change, we will work with measurement standard and nonstandard forms.

Ten Marks…. I started a new set on Friday your children should have access to it. **Reminder: I would like to see EVERYONE complete 5 to 10 minutes of work A DAY**. There will be **NO** math papers this week for the students to work on. 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** – Due on Friday Nov. 1st,completed, to receive the Pizza Hut Certificate.

We are in Chapter 2 and Chapter 3 of Shiloh this week. We finished “How the Camel got His Hump” and our poem called “Swing Song” by A.A. Milne, the children are finishing their story hunts and poems they created to match the same line stanza pattern created by A.A. Milne. We will continue to focus our instruction on comparing and contrasting within a story and well as analyzing our character traits. We will be using our Junior Great books stories we have read and the poems we have already read to practice these skills and different webs to help us.

**Social Studies: Maps and timelines –** We created timelines of the U.S. past and recent events. The students have also been broken into groups they have been give cut apart pieces of a timeline and they are recreated it in sequential order and figuring out what the main title or information that is being presented from that particular timeline.

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| **Monday** | **Tuesday** | **Wednesday** | **Thursday** | **Friday** |
| 28  Homework  Spelling  Wordly Wise  Math/Web  Reading 20/20 | 29  Homework  Spelling  Wordly Wise  Math/Web  Reading 20/20 | 30  Homework  Spelling  Wordly Wise  Math/Web  Reading 20/20 | 31  Homework  Spelling  Wordly Wise  Math/Web  Reading 20/20 | November 1  ½ Day 12:05  Homework Due  Wordly Wise  Reading Web |

**Science:** We will start our Budding Botanist William and Mary Unit this week. We will begin our scientific process within the class and then by next week (hopefully) after our pumpkin seeds have dried we will begin planting in the garden and in our classroom. Which I hope will help with the Science fair stuff going on at home. This Unit will take us all the way through until December. As we are doing china and plants right now we will be switching between science and social studies during the week and sometimes joining them where applicable.

**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 28** Science fair Entry Form DUE TODAY!!!!
* **Nov 1** [Early Release](http://www.dvusd.org/site/Default.aspx?PageID=36&PageType=17&DomainID=21&ModuleInstanceID=21&EventDateID=27)
* **Nov 11** [No School: Veteran's Day](http://www.dvusd.org/site/Default.aspx?PageID=36&PageType=17&DomainID=21&ModuleInstanceID=21&EventDateID=35413)
* **Nov 12** 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM [Governing Board Meeting](http://www.dvusd.org/site/Default.aspx?PageID=36&PageType=17&DomainID=21&ModuleInstanceID=21&EventDateID=25283)
* **Nov 26** 7:00 PM [Governing Board Meeting](http://www.dvusd.org/site/Default.aspx?PageID=36&PageType=17&DomainID=21&ModuleInstanceID=21&EventDateID=4964)
* **December 17th at 10:00 Field** **trip** - More information to follow...

Thank you, Mrs. Hoffman Diaz http://mrshoffmandiaz.weebly.com/