Dear Families, September 10, 2013

 A big **THANK YOU** to the parents that came in to talk to the class about their jobs two weeks ago, Mrs. Vattikuti, Mr. Chundi, Mrs. Bianchi, and Mr. Georgi. The kids learned a lot and had fun learning about each of your careers. Thank you to the Bixby family for sending in a baster so the kids can take over watering the Hermit Crab, Mr. Lazy (our classroom pet).

Thank you to Mrs. Gonzales for taking on class shirts (wait for information to come home soon) and offering to be class mom to plan class parties. I appreciate you taking the lead on these things it really helps out.

***Responsibility and Organization***: Your child is responsible for bringing their homework home and practicing it. I do not check folders and make sure the children have put their papers inside. If your child does not bring the papers home it is their responsibility to find it or ask me for a new one, please do not email me about where their homework is. Please ask them where it is and why they did not bring it home. I have begun an award for the week for clean and organized desks as we have many students (NOT ALL) that are very unorganized and messy. This is in hopes that the award will motivate all students to keep themselves organized and neat. (Ask your child to explain the inside of their desk to you and how/if they keep it organized.)

**Homework:** Clarification

**Wordly Wise**….. This week, the children are to complete assignments 4A-C in their books and the passage portion which is D for book 2 and E for book 3. Each week we will move on to the next number even if we did not complete all of the assignments from the previous week. I do not want to see Wordly Wise daily any more it is to be returned completed on Friday along with the math and 20/20 reading focus/web paper. Reminder: On the passage page, PLEASE have your child answer in complete sentences (if they cannot write it all on the lines provided they may use a separate sheet of paper and neat handwriting is expected.) Please have them highlight in the passage where the answers were found as well. This helps them learn to use the passage to prove their answer is correct and not just use memory recall where mistakes can be made.

 *For Example….* *How can a bat be compared to an acrobat*? An acrobat and bat can be compared because they both fly through the air and are lightweight **OR** Bats are lightweight and fly through the air and that is how they are similar to an acrobat.

**Spelling**: I will always send the new spelling list home Monday. I will pretest the children on Mondays. I will move your child from their list if they receive three 100% on pretests only. Your child will not get their pretest back unless they receive a 100%. I keep them for my records. I would recommend you pretest your child Monday as well and have them focus on the words they misspell not the entire list.

**Math:** Each week your child will receive a packet with math and reading in it. As previously stated math is not to be completed in one night. Work on it throughout the week and it is due on Friday with all the other homework. Again, if your child does not bring it home ask them where it is. I promise I gave it to them. Unless otherwise stated in the letter home or calendar.

**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. I will send home a reading web home with the math papers. Complete the web throughout the week and that web will be due on Friday. They should read the same book Monday through Friday to complete the web with, preferably a chapter book. There will be only one web/paper sent home each week. Details are to be added nightly after they read. They may use different colors for each night to show their progression to the web. This week, I will send home a sequence web. The children are to order the events to the story they are reading from the beginning to the end of the story for that week. Write one sentence under each box and then draw a picture to match the sentence. I know some students are reading LARGE chapter books and will not complete the book in a week but they can sequence what they have read in a week on the web.

**ADDITONAL ASSIGNMENTS…..** Homework will remain consistent for now (spelling, wordly wise, math and reading.) That way you always know what they need to work on.  **BUT**, I will send home random assignments based on what we are doing in class read the assignment calendar or this letter before emailing me. I will make changes Again, I don’t need to see spelling homework, Wordly Wise, math and reading daily. I will send it home on Mondays and it is due the same week on Friday. I don’t expect your child sitting doing homework for more than an hour a night. I know how hard we work in class and they need some down time, as well.

**Cloud and Extra! Extra!** Projects: The kids did an amazing job with these assignments. We started presenting them last week and will continue presenting the cloud projects the rest of this week and Extra! Extra! over the next couple weeks one a day until everyone has presented. The kids love this time.

**REMINDER:** Please make sure your child wears appropriate shoes to school on Thursday and Friday we have P.E. and your child will sit out if they do not have tennis shoes on. This is a school wide policy to keep your child safe during P.E. time.

Thank you for your continued support I greatly appreciate it.

 Mrs. Hoffman Diaz

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| **Monday** | **Tuesday** | **Wednesday** | **Thursday** | **Friday** |
| 9 HomeworkSpelling Wordly WiseMath/WebReading 20/20 | 10HomeworkSpelling Wordly WiseMath/WebReading 20/20 | 11HomeworkSpelling Wordly WiseMath/WebReading 20/20 | 12HomeworkSpelling Wordly WiseMath/WebReading 20/20 | 13 Half Day 12:05 dismissalTurn-InWordly WiseMathReading Web Have a great weekend! |
| 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 |

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**Important Dates:**

Tuesday 09/10 7:00 p.m.-Governing Board Meeting

Wednesday 09/11 Patriot Day

Thursday 09/12 Picture Day

Elementary pictures in library, schedule TBD

Middle School pictures in wrestling room, schedule TBD, will be taken in PE classes.

Friday 09/13 ½ Day- Early Release @ 12:05 p.m.

**Looking Ahead**

09/17 6:00 p.m.-Volunteer Training

09/24 7:00 p.m.-Governing Board Meeting

10/04 ½ day, early release at 12:05 p.m.

10/05 Saturday 11:00 a.m.-Volunteer Training