Dear Families, November 11, 2013

***SUPPLIES: White Board markers and pencils. Thank you for supporting our classroom.***

**HIGHLAND LAKES SCIENCE FAIR 2013**

**Entry forms 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.**

**If you have not turned your form in please do so ASAP!**

**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 will be review week in Wordly Wise. We will be taking Wordly Wise review tests for 1-11 over the next two weeks. So for the next two weeks complete the assignments that were not assigned in Wordly Wise. For example, if you are in Book 2 the end reviews were never assigned so please complete those and if you see marks for incorrect answers fix those, as well. Book 3, E has never been assigned so complete that. Again, use this time to review the words and to get caught up on Ten Marks.

**Comprehension passage:** This week we will complete a nonfiction passage for homework, just complete it by Friday, like usual. Continue to read for 20/20 but just write it in on the Book-it form for November. It is a passage about seeds and is nonfiction which is in correlation with our common core standards for more nonfiction.

**Math:** The kids are continuing to work on workstations which will review all of our skills. We started a measuring tic-tac-toe board to go along with our measurement unit. We will work with money more this quarter, measurement and making change. We are working on telling time to the minute and five minute as well as elapsed time. If you have an analog clock at home make your child tell you the time on that clock not the digital clocks as it supports this standard. Ask them questions similar to these….. What time will it be in 20 minutes? What time was it an hour and half ago? What time will it be in 10 minutes? Use words like a quarter of an hour and ten to and five to six and five after 7. Kids struggle with these terms. Just some tips to use at home.

**Ten Marks**…. **Reminder: I would like to see EVERYONE complete 5 to 10 minutes of work A DAY**. I will be able to log-in and see how long they worked and how many problems were completed. This does go in as a math grade for minutes worked a night.

**BOOK-IT** – Great job to Orrin, Trent, Susie, Sudeep, Julian, McKade, Claire and Baker for completing the Book-It for October. Way To Go!!!!!

**Reading** - We are in Chapter 3 of Shiloh this week. We will continue to focus our instruction on comparing and contrasting within a story and well as analyzing our character traits. We will be reading a Junior Great Books for the next two weeks called “The Fox and the Stork” an Aesop Fable. Our poem for the next two weeks is “Fire In the Window” by Mary Mapes Dodge.

**Social Studies: Maps and timelines –** The students continue to work in groups with their 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. We will finish timelines and maps but always referring back to them and start an activity called shipwrecked which is part of China Unit. This will take us a couple weeks to complete.

**Science:**  (I had been putting the unit off as we were waiting to get plants and seeds donated to our class so we could plant. They were supposed to arrive two weeks ago which is why I said we were going to start but unfortunately they did not arrive but they have finally arrived and we will plant them this week and finally begin this unit and the kids are very excited.) We will start our Budding Botanist William and Mary Unit this week (FINALLY). We will begin our scientific process within the class. 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.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Monday** | **Tuesday** | **Wednesday** | **Thursday** | **Friday** |
| 11No School | 12HomeworkSpelling MathComprehensioinReading 20/20Wordly Wise make- up week! | 13HomeworkSpelling MathComprehensioinReading 20/20Wordly Wise make- up week! | 14HomeworkSpelling MathComprehensioinReading 20/20Wordly Wise make- up week! | 15Homework DueComprehension Wordly Wise Make up week. |

**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**

* Nov. 4th permission slips to participate in Talent Show, if you wish (not mandatory). Talent show has moved to February 28th, 2014. Information came home last week about the date being moved.
* **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/