

February 16, 2018

Happy Lunar New Year Upper School Families,

What a whirlwind, this last week has been! On Monday, we finished the work carried over from the snow day last week and then worked on finishing the gifts for our secret buddies. Students got a lot of practice using fine motor skills with this project. This should help them all with their penmanship. On Wednesday at a little after 10:00 we took our gifts and went to surprise our buddies in the PreK/K. Only a couple of the students had guessed their buddies.

On Wednesday, we had presentations of various holidays that students researched. This was great fun as we celebrated Summer Solstice, Christmas, Easter, Korean New Year, Boxing Day, Easter, Mardi Gras, Fourth of July, and Halloween. Since our class this year is so small, we finished all our holidays in one day. I hope that the students learned a lot about the history of these holidays and had fun in the process. I also hope they learned about planning out long-range projects and not procrastinating.

Students will be required to choose the topic for their big research report this Friday. We will also go over what days we have remaining before the open house in May and set individual deadlines as a class group.

We will continue our study of ancient Greece for the rest of this month and part of March. On Thursday morning we watched several videos about the history of Athens. We will continue this week with a video on the Greek gods and then start a hands-on unit to spend time in ancient Greece and reading myths daily. We will be presenting our work and artifacts to the rest of the school on the April Whacky Wednesday (4/4/18). I hope that some of you can join us.

I will be calling Flamingo Row to make sure they are prepared for our class trip on March 1. Thanks again to all your parents who will be going with us. I also want to thank everyone who worked on the Valentine's Dance to make it a fun and successful event.

Make sure that all your children are prepared for the upcoming muddy weather on the playground and dress appropriately for the rapid daily weather changes. Future ninth graders, remember that you have high school orientation coming up next Wednesday, 2/21. The next Love and Logic training has been switched to March 6 at 3:00, because of an unavoidable, last minute meeting scheduled at Unity Point.

The sign-up sheet for the Talent Show is posted in the lobby. A flyer will be in mailboxes on Tuesday. After our field trip to Paducah, we will celebrate "Read Across America" Day on Friday, March 2. We will have a pajama day that day to be comfy while we read.

Spirit Week will again be the last week before spring break. Monday will be Mismatch Monday; Tuesday will be Tie-Dye Tuesday; Wednesday will be Whacky Wild Animal Wednesday; Thursday will be Throwback Thursday; and Friday will be Fancy Friday. The Talent Show will also be that day (3/9/28) at 1:30. Grades and checklists for the second grading period will be sent out by the last week of this month with conferences scheduled for April.

I have attached next week's vocabulary list and added important dates to remember to the end of this letter. I hope you all have a wonderful weekend.

Best wishes,

Carla



Upcoming Events

Monday, February 19: No School (Presidents' Day Holiday)

Wednesday, February 21: Ninth Grade Orientation at CCHS from 9:00-11:00

Thursday, March 1: "Shadowlands" performance at the Carson Center in Paducah (8:00-3:00)

Friday, March 2: "Read Across America" and Pajama Day

Monday March 5: Spirit Week: "Mismatch Monday"

Tuesday, March 6: Spirit Week: "Tie-Dye Tuesday"

Love and Logic Playground Training at 3:00 (RSVP required)

Wednesday, March 7: Spirit Week: "Whacky Wild Animal Wednesday"

Thursday, March 8: Spirit Week: "Throwback Thursday"

Friday, March 9: Spirit Week: "Fancy Friday"

Talent Show at 1:30

March 11-16: Spring Break

Thursday, March 22: School Board Meeting at 6:00

Thursday & Friday, March 22-23: PreK/K Used Book Sale

Vocabulary Words for the Week of February 20, 2018

1. **Athens:** city-state in ancient Greece often called the birthplace of democracy and cradle of civilization and rival of Sparta.
2. **Sparta:** a particularly militant city-state in ancient Greece built on the banks of the Eurotas River.
3. **Acropolis:** a fortress on a hill in Athens with strong walls enclosing temples. (uh-KRAH-puh-lus)
4. **chiton:** a simple tunic worn in ancient Greece. Men's were knee-length while women's were ankle-length. (KYE-tuhn)
5. **himation:** a woolen cloak worn by both men and women in ancient Greece. (him-MAT-tee-un)
6. **peplos:** long gown worn by women in ancient Greece. (PEH-plus)
7. **caduceus:** a winged staff with two snakes wrapped around it to identify medical personnel. (kuh-DOO-see-us)
8. **agora:** a marketplace in ancient Greece. (AG-guh-ruh)
9. **triremes:** large ships powered by big square sails and three rows of oars manned by slaves. (tri-REEMS)
10. **trident:** a three-pronged spear used for catching fish and carried by the god of the sea, Poseidon.

11. **hoplite:** armed soldiers who were considered to be the best foot soldiers in the Athenian army. (HOP-lite)

12. **greaves:** bronze shin guards worn by Greek soldiers.

13. **Parthenon:** a huge temple on the Acropolis to honor Athena. fountain of water and steam that builds up pressure underground and erupts at regular intervals. ((PAR-thuh-nahn)

14. **regatta:** a boat race.

15. **pentathlon:** five athletic events consisting of running, jumping, wrestling, throwing a javelin and throwing a discus. To win the pentathlon, the winners has to score the highest in three events. (pen-THAT-lun)

* **meze:** The start of a Greek dinner consisting of a plateful of fresh, tasty cold foods. (meh-ZAY)