

04 January 2019

Dear Upper School family and friends,

We had a great first day back and created vision boards today (or at least started on them). Students need to bring in their completed Vision Boards on Monday to share with the class. Those students who were unable to attend today, should bring theirs in no later than Wednesday. The boards will include goals and visions that the students have for their life and the year ahead. Students have also chosen a word to focus on for the year ahead. Some that were chosen are joy, beauty, courage, happy, work, etc.

Monday students will take home graded work folders and they need to be returned by Friday, January 11. Students will also have a "Problem of the Week" next week and every other full week until the end of the school year. We will also resume our reading, writing, & research next week. On Monday, students will choose a country to research for an oral report with bibliography due on February 14. This will serve as an introduction to their upcoming major research project to be presented at the open house in May. Students will be presented with a list of countries and we will draw name sticks so the choices will be random.

Thank you so much to everyone who brought magazines in for our vision boards. Thanks also to Avree's family and Anna and Wiley's family for donating items for our wish list. It is all very much appreciated.

We will start our new read-aloud book on Monday after talking about it today. We will be reading *Squirm* by Carl Hiaason. I know that most of the students should enjoy the action and humor in this book. We are also discussing all the reading we did over our winter break.

In science next week, we will be focusing on physics and starting with a study of motion. In social studies we will skip back and study medieval Japan and its feudal system. There will be lots of writing and reading involved. Vocabulary words will be taken from those two subjects.

Cursive practice will continue as before, but on a twice a week basis. All work except math will need to be completed in ink and cursive (or typed and printed). Today there were

several students of various grade levels who informed me that they could not complete their work because they did not have pens.

I hope you all have an enjoyable weekend. Remind our young scholar to come prepared to work hard on Monday. They may feel as if a whirlwind has hit them after the laid-back time in December.

Best wishes,

Carla

## **Dates to Remember**

January 7: Hershey Returns

Country Research Starts; Work Folders Go Home; Vision Boards Due

January 9: All School Assembly-Dress like your favorite book character

January 15: Ms. Liz's Birthday

January 18: Noon Dismissal with Childcare; Teachers' Meeting

January 21: Holiday-No School; No Childcare

January 23: All School Meeting

January 24: School Board Meeting at 6:00 p.m.

January 30: NAEP Testing for Eighth Grade Students

***Wish List:** Swiffer Duster refills and College-ruled Notebook Filler Paper*