

October 13, 2016

Hello Upper School Families and Students,

Thank you so much for all your help and support last week and this with my sister's passing away. Your kind thoughts and prayers are much appreciated. I am sending out this newsletter early because I will be in Tennessee again this weekend. The kids are doing a wonderful job in all their subjects.

In social studies we have moved into the War for American independence from Britain. We are still looking at a variety of sources as we follow the timeline to the U.S. Constitution. We have finished reading *Witch of Blackbird Pond* and started reading *My Brother Sam is Dead* for read aloud. We are also following along in our text, the social studies newspapers, and Howard Zinn's *Young Peoples History of the United States*. On Monday, I got permission from Laurie to keep all of my students for the morning and we will be watching the movie version of *1776*, which is fun, but also shows the road to the Declaration of Independence through the eyes and viewpoints of people from different colonies. I have shown this before with no complaints, but if you have a problem with your child viewing it, please let me know and they can have an alternative assignment.

Students are compiling their own spelling/vocabulary words for next week from their reading. They have been working on how to write news stories this week and I plan to assign them topics for our next newsletter.

In science they have been studying classification and made posters today to show the classification of an organism of their choice. These will be up in the hall soon to replace our name posters.

Please remember to come to the Panera fundraiser next Tuesday from 4:00-8:00 and bring your voucher. Our goal is to get at least 50 flyers so we can earn 20% on those purchases, so be sure to share flyers with friends and family and encourage them to attend. You cannot, however, hand them out on the premises.

Halloween is coming up the last Monday of the month and we will be having our Oktoberfest that day from 1:30-2:15 with classroom parties immediately after that. I am going to ask the kids to organized this, so they may be asking for help and donations. They will also be working on our classroom activity. In the morning we will be watching the movie *Hocus Pocus*, which is an Upper School tradition.

Finally remember that the Hispanic Heritage Celebration is tomorrow at 10:45. Hope to see you all there.

Best wishes,

Carla