

27 January 2019

Dear Upper School family and friends,

I cannot believe that the weekend is almost over and I *still* have so much to do. All teachers need extra time in the day. I guess that probably goes for all professions though. We had a great week last week and plan on an even better one this week. We have a full week of school so graded work folders will go home tomorrow (Monday) as will Problem of the Week (POW) folders. Both must be turned in by 8:00 on Friday for full credit.

A full week also means that we have 20 words on our vocabulary list this week. These words all come from our read-aloud book and will help students understand some words they might not be familiar with as well as give them some new words (with their correct spelling) to use in their own writing. Students can again use Spelling City to help them learn their words and definitions. They will be required to complete seven of the ten assignments. Students must be logged in with their user name and password for it to count--the computer version of remembering to put your name on the paper.

Japan and forces will continue in social studies and science. We had a lot of absences last week. I hope everyone is feeling better this week. It is really hard to work on projects with some students gone, and we had students gone from all grade levels but one last week. Still it is really important that students stay home if they are ill. The handbook states that students must fever-free without medication for 24 hours and not had incidents of vomiting or diarrhea for 24 hours to come back to school. Please be considerate of the other children and adults at the school and keep contagious kids home where they will recover faster.

In math, we are still covering the same concepts as last week in our different math levels. The fourth graders are working on multiplication and fifth graders are working on division. Sixth graders will be working on multiplying and dividing decimals. Some seventh grade students will finish up their unit on rational numbers and move into studying ratios and proportional relationships while others will progress with ratios and proportions. The eighth

graders will be continuing their study of linear, proportional, and nonproportional relationships by learning to write equations from tables. February has a lot of things happening. Kids will do their country reports which will serve as our Valentine's Party so food is essential to that. I brought shortbread when I modeled the report for them by talking about Scotland last week. Besides food is always essential at this age. If you can volunteer to help with the dance that night, please contact Courtney as soon as possible.

On Wednesday, February 6, I have an early morning dental appointment so the students will have to arrive after the before school staff arrives between 7:30 and 7:45. I had this scheduled for last Monday when there was no school, but then we go snow so I had to reschedule.

I will be out of the classroom a lot in the next month since it is the end of the second trimester and I will need to be observing in other classes and working on grades and narratives for our students. I have been extremely torn this year with all the differing duties I have had, and so I informed the school board last week that I will not be performing any director duties next year. My heart is in the classroom with my students and I want to make next year as fun and exciting as possible. I want it to be full of learning and field trips and projects and adventures and to do that I have to concentrate only on my class. I plan on next year being my last year of teaching in the classroom and as such I want it to be the best for all the kids and for me.

I have attached this week's list of vocabulary and definitions and have also listed upcoming events through the end of February.

Best wishes,

Carla

Dates to Remember

January 29: I have an appointment, so Upper School will dismiss at 3:00 p.m.

January 30: NAEP Testing for Eighth Grade Students

February 6: All School Meeting at 8:30 a.m.

February 7: Fund Raising Meeting at 3:30 p.m.

February 14: Country Reports; Noon Dismissal with Childcare

February 14: Valentine Dance

February 15: No School and No Childcare; End of the Grading Period

February 18: Holiday with No School and No Childcare

February 20: Freshman Orientation for CCHS

February 28: School Board Meeting at 6:00 p.m.

Wish List: Poster Board

VOCABULARY FOR THE WEEK OF JANUARY 28-February 1, 2019

1. **slingshot:** a Y-shaped stick with an elastic strip between the prongs for shooting stones and other small missiles. (noun, singular)

2. **estimate:** an approximate judgment or calculation, as of the value, amount, time, size, or weight of something (noun, singular)

3. **miniature:** a representation or image of something on a small or reduced scale (noun, singular)

4. **reeking:** stinking; having an unpleasant odor (adjective or present participle of verb)

5. **license:** an official permission or permit to do, use, or own something (noun, singular)

6. **disclosure:** divulgence, revelation, exposure (noun, singular)

7. **drawbridge:** a bridge of which the whole or a section may be drawn up, let down, or drawn aside, to prevent access or to leave a passage open for boats, barges, etc. (noun, singular)

8. **parallel:** extending in the same direction, equidistant at all points, and never converging or diverging (adjective)

9. **causeway:** a raised road or path, as across low or wet ground (noun, singular)

10. **invisible:** unseen; hidden (adjective)

11. **chuckle:** to laugh softly or amusedly usually with satisfaction; to laugh to oneself (verb)

12. **cough:** to expel air from the lungs suddenly with a harsh noise, often involuntarily (verb)

13. **undertaker:** a funeral director (noun, singular)

14. **dilemma:** a situation requiring a choice between equally undesirable alternatives (noun, singular)

15. **judgment:** forming of an opinion, estimate, notion, or conclusion, as from circumstances presented to the mind (noun, singular)

16. **choice:** an alternative; a selection (noun, singular)

17. **verge:** edge, rim or margin; brink (noun, singular)

18. **illuminate:** to supply or brighten with light; to make clear (verb)

19. **situation:** condition; case; plight; the state of affairs; combination of circumstances (noun, singular)

20. **slaughter:** to kill in a brutal or violent manner (verb)