

February 8, 2018

Room 204 News and Spelling Homework

Dear Room 204 families:

Some of this information is repeated from previous newsletters, as we are now back in a steady homework routine after our break for the holidays and the Spelling Bee.

Homework

Spelling

We are resuming weekly spelling homework, so as before, spelling will be assigned on Thursdays (coming home today and every Thursday in homework folders), and due back on the following Wednesday each week. We will study a different pattern each week, so the focus is on learning the pattern, as well as memorizing the weekly word list for a spelling quiz each Wednesday.

Reading

Kids should now read at least 45 minutes daily and complete reading logs. I check those daily and give incentives (like free recess time) for completing them.

Math

There will be no math homework for the next two weeks because we are now reviewing for the trimester test coming up next week. The test covers Modules 2, 3, and 6. Kids can log in to zearn.org to review at home. If they don't know their login, send me an email and I will send it to you.

Multiplication Facts

We will continue to have weekly quizzes on multiplication facts, so keep practicing at home!

Upcoming:

Wednesday, 2/14/18 1:30-2:15

Class Valentine's Party. Please join us and/or send in treats to share. I sent home a class list so that kids can make Valentine's cards for their classmates if they so choose. We will have time to exchange those in class, but kids are welcome to participate or not as they choose. Alternate activities will be available. Please let me know if you need another copy of the class list.

Friday, 2/16 and Monday, 2/19/18 No School. President's Weekend.

Thursday, 2/22, 6-8 p.m. Black History Month Family Event. Many of our kids are performing, so please join us!

Monday, 2/26 Submissions due for In Dulci Jubilo Art, Poetry, and Essay Contest. Details attached. See <http://www.indulcijubilo.org/contest/> for more information.

Friday, 3/2 9:00-9:30 Family Potluck in Room 204 (see flyer on the back of this page) Please join us to celebrate finished projects and enjoy the students' work. Bring a treat to share!

Tuesday, 3/27-3/28/18 Eureka ferry boat overnight field trip

Room 204 Family Potluck

Friday, 3/2/18 9:00-9:30 a.m. in Room 204

Students have been working on some amazing projects and I am very excited for them to share their work with you!

We have been working on The Heroes Project, researching role models of color and creating posters with original portraits painted by Room 204 students. They are beautiful and incredible and I can't wait for you all to come and see what outstanding things your students have been creating in our classroom!

Please join us and bring some sort of breakfast treat to share if you are able.

Instructions for In Dulci Jubilo Art, Poetry and Essay Contest

Theme: "Colors of My World"

Entries due to Ms. M. no later than Monday, 2/26/18.

This is an optional activity. Students who choose to participate will do most of the work independently, and we will also spend about 2 hours of class time so that any students who need my help can meet with me.

Directions from the In Dulci Jubilo organization
(<http://www.indulcijubilo.org/contest/>)

The Art, Poetry and Essay Contest is open to all fourth and fifth graders in the Berkeley Unified School District. Students are invited to express their ideas through art, poetry, or essay. Students may submit work in more than one category. Cash prizes and medals will be awarded at the Awards Ceremony. There are prizes for 1st, 2nd, 3rd place and Honorable Mention in all three categories for both fourth and fifth graders.

The 2018 AP&E Contest was completed with the Awards Ceremony will be on April 19, 2018. Malcolm X Elementary School, Berkeley. Program starts at 6:30

ANNUAL JUDGING CRITERIA

The Judges Are Happy To Receive Carefully Produced, Handwritten, Or Typed Work!

ART

1. Art should address the theme in a visual context, and may be realistic or imaginative. It may incorporate words, but should be primarily visual.
2. Pieces can be no larger than 24 inches by 36 inches.
3. Students may use any medium, including watercolor, collage, weaving, crayon, pencil, ink, or paint. **Please note:** Due to the necessity of moving the artwork for judging and display, **three-dimensional models or sculptures will not be accepted.**
4. The artwork will be judged for originality of design and successful execution.

POETRY

1. The poem should address the theme, and may be realistic or imaginative.
2. Poems may be up to 30 lines long, and should be written in lines, not paragraphs. The poem need not rhyme. Please keep in mind that award-winning poems will be read aloud before an audience of adults and children, and therefore should not be too long.
3. Poems will be judged for originality, fresh and expressive language, imagery, metaphor and coherence.
4. Poems should be written or typed neatly, using correct grammar, spelling and punctuation. The beginning letters of lines need not be capitalized.

ESSAYS

1. Essays may be narrative, informal, expository, or even persuasive. They may include elements of imagination, or details of historical or cultural significance. The perspective can be personal, or reflect a voice for the larger community or the world.
2. The essay should be no more than 300 words—approximately one page, typed and double-spaced. Please keep in mind that award-winning essays will be read aloud to an audience of adults and children, and therefore should not be too long.

3. Essays will be judged for creativity, originality, coherence, organization, and expressive language.
4. Essays should be neatly written or typed, using correct grammar, spelling, punctuation, and capitalization. **Please submit finished pieces, NOT rough drafts.**

*****ALL WORK MUST BE LABELED PROPERLY*****

On the BACK of each entry, please include the following:

Student's name

Student's grade level

Classroom teacher's name

School name

Please note, we cannot accept entries without this information. Unlabeled or incorrectly labeled entries may be returned to the school they came from without notice to the classroom teacher.