

Hi All,

First, many thanks to those of you who have contributed toward the class auction project. The minimal contribution of \$3-5 can still be sent to Julie Corley or me. I'll get it to Julie for you. (Honest. I will)!

Secondly, a few calendar reminders: There is no school for kids tomorrow or Monday. Friday is a teacher in-service day, and Monday is Columbus Day. Here's hoping you can enjoy some down time with your kids.

Next Thursday afternoon and evening, and all day Friday are reserved for parent-teacher conferences. We'll meet in my classroom. Forms for you to complete requesting day and time were given to your child on Monday. The sooner they are returned, the better your chance of being granted your request.

The 2nd quarter of school begins next Tuesday. I reminded the class (and now you) that the new AR goal for a 100% on the AR portion of the reading grade will be 8 points. It was 7 the first quarter. So far, half the class has reached the goal for the first quarter, and a few others are planning to take tests before the week is over. I think they all learned a valuable lesson in long-term planning and intermediate goal-setting. Better to be the turtle than the hare.

We began multiplication in math lesson 29 this week. All students are required to recite their tables 2 through 10 with no more than 20 seconds per table allowed. I have no time table for completion, however, it is better for the kids to do it sooner than later since multiplying will be more and more important as the year progresses.

Our visit to Westchester on Monday went very well. Some of the kids felt a bit uncomfortable in being with older people who have difficulty communicating. I told the kids that simply talking, making eye contact, and doing a lot of smiling is the way to go. Originally we were planning to visit each month; however, the 8th grade has requested that we alternate with them, so they will represent GLS in October. Our next visit will be November 2.

Tests next week:

(No spelling. The week is short).

Tuesday - English Unit 2 (nouns)

Thursday - Memory for 10/15

Religion (Joseph and resettlement in Egypt of Jacob's family).

Blessings to you and your family. I look forward to seeing you next week.

Tom