

Dear Parents,

I hope all the Ellerbees had fun last Wednesday on Veteran's Day! And a relaxing weekend!

I think I have mentioned this before, but I continue to be amazed at how helpful all the Ellerbees are to each other! Students can have so many different technology problems. (I think we can all relate! LOL) And multiple kids will offer solutions. Last week we had problems with sound, and problems with chat. We needed links for schoolwork and how to access a document. And more! And everyone jumps in to offer solutions. Sometimes they are offering solutions for me! It is a new world, isn't it? Kids are zooming ahead of adults as they become experts in tech world! But it's not just the expertise, it is the kindness that overwhelms me!

On to stuff to know...

### **BLACK INK**

Thank you so much for supporting my request to have everyone use black pen on assignments. It has helped a lot! I think I just had one fuzzy document last week. Hooray! Did anyone try those amazing erasable pens?

### **CHAPTER 3 MATH TEST**

So, the big thing this week is that we will be taking our Chapter 3 math test on Friday. As before, there will be a Google Quiz posted on Google Classroom Friday morning. I was so relieved that for the Chapter 2 math test, we had much less problems with submitting the test! Whew! So hopefully it will go 100% smoothly this time.

Also, as before, there will be a Part 2, which must be done on paper. Then, this paper part needs to be emailed to me.

I am giving plenty of time to take the test. I do not want any rushing, which can easily lead to careless mistakes. So, they have from 10:00 to 12:00. If they finish the test and email me the paper part before 12:00 I will excuse them. They will possibly have an extra big break for lunch. We will be reviewing for the test all week. Each day we will practice the 4 ways we have learned to multiply. There will be no other concepts or surprises on the test.

### **MISSION CONTROL**

We are beginning a new social studies unit about California Missions. This is explained on the Social Studies page on the website and I introduced it to the class last Friday.

The routine to know is typically, each week we will do:

- Monday afternoon read the new Background Sheet and go over the SMAART assignment.
- The SMAART assignment is due on Wednesdays. This is so I can grade them on Thursday. This is how the teams earn their gold and needs to be completed before we can play the game round. So, getting this turned in on time is critical and will affect whether we can actually play the game that week.
- Friday afternoon we will play a game round. Woo hoo!

## **ASSIGNMENT CHECKLIST**

I'm hoping this new page has been helpful. After having conversations with some parents and kids, I have added one thing. For each assignment listed, I have also added the due date. This gives you that one quick place to check what to do, what to name it, and when it is due.

## **NAMING ASSIGNMENTS**

This is still an on-going issue. The ironic thing is that I really focused on this on Monday with the class. I re-emphasized how important it was. And then, that very day, there was a flood of assignments named incorrectly. I hate to keep harping on this, but it is so important. That is why the Assignment Checklist page literally says what to name everything. It's a quick way to doublecheck.

One of the pesky types of names are when there is a number involved. This week this is particularly relevant as the Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday math assignments are all named the same except for the number. (Chap 3 Math Practice 1, Chap 3 Math Practice 2, and Chap 3 Math Practice 3)

## **SCHOOL REOPENING**

I know you are fully aware of all the discussion going on with the CUSD district on when school will reopen, and when it does, what will it look like? This is creating anxiety for everyone, no matter what our perspectives are.

I am sure you are aware that the district sent out a link for all families to fill out a survey. If you have not done so yet, please do it today. The deadline is November 16. This one is asking for general feedback without asking anyone to make a commitment about what they would prefer regarding reopening. This information will drive the district's options that will eventually be presented. The link is:

[https://hanover-research.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_bkpfayBHggLUd9z](https://hanover-research.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_bkpfayBHggLUd9z)

## **VACATION IS ALMOST HERE**

I am sure everyone is aware of this, but our Thanksgiving Break will be from November 23 to November 27. School will resume on Monday, November 30. I hope that you all have a wonderful week off, even if it may look a little different from the past.

So the countdown to vacation is beginning! I think we all need a break!

Stay safe,

Ruth