

News from 1CM

We are winding down first grade here in 1CM. As we talk about the upcoming transitions, we are seeing many different reactions and ways of coping. Some students are very energetic, some quiet, some are a bit sad, but all seem excited about moving on to something new and different. We will be saying good-bye to Laila and Sofia who will be moving. Mrs. Mulholland will be leaving 1CM so next year Mrs. Lilley can return to work.

We have started a new math unit about geometry called Block and Boxes. It has many fun components to it, including describing and classifying 3-D shapes, learning how to draw and build 3-D buildings and building a block town. We will be inviting parents in to see the final results on the last day of school. An invitation will be forthcoming, but June 23rd at 11am is the time set aside for viewing.

The writing folders are busting at the seams and we have been working on finalizing stapling together all finished work and organizing what is left in the folders. The nonfiction writing is all complete and will come home with the rest of the writing.

One of the best things about teaching first grade is watching young readers grow. It is just amazing to see how far everyone has come this year and it has only happened because of all of the hard work that students have done. We are so proud of your children.

We have been talking in 1CM about how to be a good winner and how to be a good loser. Students seem to be so confused about this issue that some refrain from celebrating a win at all. We had to be very explicit in explaining appropriate ways to celebrate (cheering, congratulating team members) and inappropriate ways to celebrate (in your face tactics). Celebrating a win does not equal making the losing team feel bad. Winning does feel good and

losing feels bad. Those feels come with the territory of playing games. We have also been discussing how to be a good loser (congratulating the other team, saying “Good game”, knowing you tried your best). These reminders are meant to help team members practice how to lose well. It might be helpful to have a discussion at home regarding winning and losing to reinforce positive messages about playing group games.

We look forward to seeing you on the last day of school or before to wish you well.