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January 16 – January 20

First Grade Parents,

 I hope everyone enjoyed their three-day weekend. We had talked a lot about MLK Jr. in class, so I hope that the children were able to share a few things we learned about him with you.

 Even though it is a short week, we do have a Bible verse and a spelling test. Spelling has a Tic-Tac-Toe board with it (as it will for the remainder of the year). This week I offered a “Free” space to make up for the one day less your child has to complete the work. Spelling grades were up last week! The extra practice must be working. If you still have any questions about how to complete the Tic-Tac-Toe assignment, please email me.

 On to handwriting…ahhhhhh!!!!

 We teach and use D’Nealian Handwriting at CTK. We do for several reasons. First, it transitions to cursive writing so easily. Second, it further develops fine motor skills that our kiddos need. Third, it is neat and can be read easily. We have a workbook that we use in class. I am finding that the children are not transferring what we practice in our book to their writing throughout the day. I have been a “softie” by just reminding the kids to use their D’Nealian “next time”. No more. Beginning today, I told them I will not accept work that is not written in D’Nealian. I practically went through a whole pink eraser today erasing letters that were not formed correctly!! Truly, I am wasting our time that we spend practicing in our workbook if I am not going to enforce the writing style. Also, Mrs. Kupitz will expect them to use D’Nealian when they enter her room next year. It becomes part of your child’s report card beginning in third grade. I am asking you to support your child by having them use D’Nealian writing at home, too. Homework needs to be in the D’Nealian style. In case you are not familiar with the writing style, I am attaching a D’Nealian Handwriting Guide for you to print and use at home. The work I saw today (after my erasures) was so neat and beautiful!! It does make a difference!

Please remember to sign and return report card envelopes as soon as possible.

 Thank you to the Dominguez Family for providing snacks this week. The Berryman Family will be providing snacks next week. There are still quite a few weeks open on our snack schedule if you are able to help out.

 May God Bless You,

 Mrs. Stevason