**SHARING**

 Sharing this week is Children’s Choice.

 For sharing next week children should bring an object with the short sound of /i/ in its name. This is the vowel sound heard in “trip”.

**NO SPELLING**

 We won’t have spelling this week.

**SWIMMING CHANGE**

We are making a major change to our swimming schedule. Rather than having parts of the class swim on two different days, we are going to have the whole class swim on Wednesday from now on. This should simplify things for everyone and make the whole process far more efficient. Students will still go into the pool in two different groups based on swimming ability. Please send your child to school on Wednesdays with swimwear and a towel.

**LANGUAGE ARTS**

First through fifth graders began DOL (Daily Oral Language) last week. Each day I write two sentences for each grade level on the board. The sentences are filled with errors in spelling, grammar, word usage, capitalization, and punctuation. The children rewrite the sentences on paper while finding and correcting as many of the errors as they can. We then go over each sentence together and find and fix the mistakes. Students are then supposed to fix anything they missed originally. The goal is to hand in a paper with everything correct. Please look for these to come home every week.

**MATH HOMEWORK**

 All students have math homework attached to this bulletin today. The purpose of this homework is to serve as a review for students. It should keep concepts they learned earlier in the year fresh in their minds. They shouldn’t require help from you—except for possibly some reading assistance for the kindergarteners and Draven.

There are four columns on the homework, and each is labeled with a day of the week beginning with Monday and ending with Thursday. This is the evening the homework should be completed. Since there wasn’t school on Monday this week, students completed Monday evening’s homework in class today. This gave us the opportunity to talk about it.

 Please help your child remember to complete this each evening and then to turn it in on Friday morning. Please let me know if there were problems that were a struggle for your child. This information will allow me to give your student extra assistance with those concepts. Thanks!

**BATTLE OF THE BOOKS**

After a discussion last week, students decided that Wednesday and Thursday were the best days for their Battle of the Books session. We’ll begin practicing for the competition on Wednesday and Thursday of this week. Practice goes from 3:10 until 4:00. A letter with more details was sent home today with all third and fourth graders.

**SNACK MONEY**

 Thanks to everyone who remembered to turn in third quarter’s snack money. It is greatly appreciated.

**UPCOMING BEES**

 It’s the bee season! The school’s spelling bee and geography bee are coming up. The spelling bee will be held on Thursday, January 25th. The geography bee will be held on Thursday, February 1st. I’ll let you know the time each bee will start in future bulletins. Students in grades four through eight are eligible to participate. In my classroom I expect students to participate in at least one of the bees. They can choose which. It’s great if they choose to participate in both!

**BOOK ORDERS**

 I’ve attached the most recent book order forms. All orders are due by Friday, January 26th.