

Dear Parents,

Thank you so much for all of your support throughout this crazy year. We really have felt appreciated, especially this week. Thank you for all the sweet notes, cards, treats, flowers, and gifts. We felt spoiled all week. We are having a wonderful year with this awesome class! It's so hard to believe that we only have 5 weeks of school left.

Auction week is upon us! Make sure you get registered for all of the fun throughout the week and for the virtual Gala on Saturday night. Here is the [link](#) to register and preview all the awesome items. Please feel free to share the link far and wide. Since the auction is virtual, anyone can participate. Did you miss donating? Although we are NO longer accepting tangible donations, cash donations, wine, and SCRIP gift cards will be accepted until Tuesday, May 11th. Any little bit helps.

Picture retakes are scheduled for Tuesday May 11th. Please remember if you are getting retakes because you did not like the picture that was taken, please bring back the pictures on Tuesday. Here is the [link](#) if you would like to order pictures.

IB unit: Last week your child learned about how people used selection to change an animal's traits, such as creating new breeds of dogs. Next week we will see how selection isn't always caused by human beings: sometimes other, non-human factors can cause selection to happen. Then we will move on to the next mystery and learn how living in groups helps many animals survive, including wolves, meerkats, ravens, and ants! You can support your child's curiosity at home! Look for different kinds of animals near your home, and ask your child your child for each kind of animal, "Do you think it lives in a group? How do you think living in a group helps it survive?"

It's garden time! Monday the third grade will be going up to our garden plot and planting tomatoes and other vegetables. The children need to be in uniform but still dress for the weather with an added sweater or coat. If they have garden gloves they can bring those as well.

Our focus during our class meetings has been **Perseverance**. You may have seen information on classdojo about "The Big Dip" and how Katie climbed out of the dip with a better ability to reflect, not give up, and realize that it was okay not to be the best at everything. To teach the children a little about showing perservance, we have had them work on projects that would cause them to need to show perseverance (origami butterflies and multiplication magic squares) Watch for more perseverance projects to come and examples of Olypians and paralympians who have had to show great perseverance to get where they are today.

Have a wonderful weekend,

Susan Smith and Valerie Sheehan