

**English:** If you need help with translation of this newsletter, call **651-293-8830**

**Karen:** နမ့်လိန်ဘိုင်တော်မေစာဘိုင်လားလိတ်ကစီတဘိုင်အံန့်န့်,ဆဲးကျိုးဘိုင်သရိုင် Mr. Moo or Mr. Min.

**Hmong:** Yog tias koj xav tau kev pab txhais cov ntawv xov xwm no, hu rau Ms. Thao.

**Spanish:** Si necesita ayuda con la traducción de este boletín, llame a la Sra. Feisel.

Greetings Parent(s) or Guardian(s),

As you know we have just begun the fourth and final quarter of your child's seventh grade experience. All of them recently finished their Reading MCA tests and all of them worked very hard. I feel strongly they did well. Before testing began, I taught them test taking strategies, gave them opportunities to practice sample tests, and we reviewed all of these things together through an imbedded interactive Kahoot!

We have begun reading a new class novel this week and it is based on a true story. I was able to get a class set ordered special for us. The book is a graphic novel titled El Deafo by Cece Bell. The story is about a girl that develops a disability of deafness from complications of spinal meningitis. The story takes place over several years of this girl's life and is filled with themes about friendship, acceptance, finding one's voice, and maintaining a positive attitude even when she is faced with difficult circumstances.

There are a couple friendly reminders I should pass along. Please encourage your child to read at home a minimum of twice per week for at least 30 minutes at a time. I ask for your help in encouraging your child to read because the influence from a loved one can have a meaningful impact beyond the classroom. A total of one hour per week is manageable and will become a beneficial routine that improves study skills and will boost knowledge and confidence. Plus, Summer is right around the corner and promoting active reading in the household can really give them a strong start for the eighth grade.

Lastly, the seventh grade students' iPads will need to be collected by school staff May 23<sup>rd</sup>, and there is a lot of iPad use in classrooms during fourth quarter. It is extremely important that students are bringing their iPads to school everyday fully charged, with the provided keyboard. This way, students are in a better position to finish strong with good grades because they are then prepared to fully engage in classroom activities.

Please feel free to contact me if you want to check up on your child or have any question at all. I understand the value you bring to your child's academic future and very much consider you as a partner in their learning.

Respectfully,



Luke Bickford  
Reading Teacher - 7th Grade  
Washington Technology Magnet  
1495 Rice Street, St. Paul, MN 55117

(Phone) 651-744-2446  
(Email) luke.bickford@spps.org