

March 15, 2024 Update – Pre-Spring Break!

Good afternoon families and Happy Spring Break!

This year is flying by! I hate to sound like a newscaster on a certain Jimmy Kimmel segment, but I can't believe we're in the middle of March already. Today is technically the last school day of March!

We finished our beaded timeline! It gave such a great sense of the scale of time and how much of the past is unknown. We really only study the last 2% in a strand of human history in this place we live. The timeline is now under our main whiteboard.

We had a fun lesson the other day on palindromes. As a reminder, these are words or phrases spelled the same backwards and forwards (eg. Anna, Bob, kayak, "A man, a plan, a canal, Panama," etc). These also exist in mathematics! One of the cooler examples is multiple digit numbers that only contain 1's as their digits. $1 \times 1 = 1$, $11 \times 11 = 121$, $111 \times 111 = 12,321$, $1,111 \times 1,111 = 1,234,321$... $111,111,111 \times 111,111,111 = 12,345,678,987,654,321$. It's one of my favourite math tricks!

The guitars came on Thursday! So far, we have started to learn how to tune our guitars and our first few chords (G, D, Em). The chorus of Yellow Submarine only needs G and D, so we have started to learn that! It's a slow and simple strumming pattern and an easy chord change, so it's a great song to start us off. I can't wait to pick it back up when we come back from break and I hope the kids feel the same way.

We've been playing basketball and practicing our shooting with some games of HORSE! I can safely say that everyone seems to be pretty equally matched and the challenges have been getting harder and harder! Each of the kids is challenging the others, making it a really fun game for all of us.

It looks like we have some great weather, at least for the first part of Spring Break! London is looking warm but cloudy, so that actually sounds really nice! Get out and explore. Spend time together. I will be periodically checking my emails but may be a little slower to respond while I'm away. Happy Good Friday and Easter and we will see you back on April 3rd!