

September 5, 2007

Dear Parents and Students of Room 20,

It is with pleasure that I welcome you to Room 20! I am very excited about working with this wonderful group of students, their families, and all of the exciting experiences we have ahead of us. This will be my third year in First Grade at Leitch Elementary School. I'm just thrilled to be back! Many of you, I'm sure know why I'm so thrilled to be back – it is a wonderful place to be! To the returning families at Leitch, welcome! And to the new families, I'm sure you'll soon realize that Leitch is a great place to be! This year will start off a little differently than usual, since I am expecting my first child on September 11th. I am pleased to say that in my absence Mrs. Ashley will be take over the duties of teaching your child. She is very experienced not only with teaching the students at Leitch, but also with knowing the rules and procedures here at Leitch. She has subbed often at Leitch and has even done some long term assignments in 1st grade, 2nd grade and P.E. I will be returning later in the year and am very anxious to begin working with the Room 20 children and families.

To help us build a sense of community and responsibility in our classroom we will be developing our own classroom rules together over the first few days of school. Students enjoy doing this activity and they tend to remember the rules better when they have had a hand in developing them. Once we have completed this task I will send home a copy for your review. In addition, I will go over the classroom rules at Back to School night, as well as our rewards and consequences plan.

I hope to get the chance to meet all of you at Back to School Night on Tuesday, September 26th. On that night I will have a sign-up sheet for various classroom parent volunteer opportunities. I always need and appreciate the help and support! If you would like to help out but are unavailable during the daytime there will be some opportunities to do things at home to help prepare a lesson, art project, etc.

Please read the backside of this letter for some important school-wide information regarding the first grade. Additionally, please review, sign, and return all of the appropriate paper work in the Leitch Folder as soon as possible. In the future the Leitch Folders will be sent home every Thursday for your review and the folder is to be returned each Friday. The Thursday folders will include important correspondence as well as student work from the past week.

I look forward to a productive, creative, and fun filled year of learning. If you have any questions or concerns you may contact me at 657-6100 ext. 44020. You may also contact me through email at ablaker@fremont.k12.ca.us. I like to make myself available to you as much as possible so feel free to drop in before or after school. Unless I have some sort of Yard Duty at that time then I'm usually in my room. If, however, you would rather call or email me to set up an appointment, that is fine too. I'm very flexible! Once again, welcome to First Grade in Room 20!

Sincerely,

Audrey Blaker
First Grade Teacher
Room 20