

September Newsletter -- Room 6

Dear Families,

Welcome to first grade! I am looking forward to having a great year with your children. I hope to have an opportunity to become acquainted with you during the course of the school year. This letter will answer some questions you may have. If there are any not covered here, please feel free to call or talk to me at Back to School Night.

SCHOOL WILL START at 8:30 and students will be dismissed at 2:50 on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays. On Wednesdays, dismissal will be at 1:15. The very first Wednesday of every month will have a 12:05 dismissal time, beginning in October. Your child will be dismissed from the classroom and will walk to one of four areas: supervised courtyard tables, valet (car pick-up), Y-Kids, or the Sunshine pick-up.

The 1:15 P. M. dismissal days in September are 9/5, 9/12, 9/19, 9/25, and 9/26.

SNACKS – Many children get quite hungry before lunch. You may send a small, NUTRITIOUS snack to school that your child can serve him/her self at the first recess. **Please do not send candy.**

LUNCHES – All children should have a lunch every day. Sometimes they don't feel hungry at lunchtime and may not eat what is sent for them; however, by the end of the afternoon their energy reserves are low. Paying attention and learning is difficult when you are hungry. If your child does not like traditional lunch foods, send healthy snack foods instead. If your child is buying a school lunch with milk (\$2.50/day), please send the money in an envelope or coin purse that has been clearly marked with your child's name and room number. Loose money often gets lost or misplaced. If your child brings lunch and wants to purchase milk, the cost is 50 cents.

HOMEWORK – Your child will have an orange homework folder, which will go home every day, Monday through Friday, and will need to be returned the next day. More specific information about homework will be sent home next week. Talk to your child about where to put his/her homework, library books, backpack, and Dragon Folder, so it will be easy to remember to return them the next day.

PARENT COMMUNICATIONS – This year our school will send home the Dragon Folders on Thursdays. They should be returned on Friday with your signature indicating that you have received the papers inside, and any notes I may have made to you. Please feel free to comment in the space provided. The Dragon folders will contain school and class newsletters, permission slips, and sign-ups. I will be sending completed student work home in the Dragon Folder.

VOLUNTEERS – Attached to this newsletter, is a sign-up sheet for volunteering in the classroom. I will need volunteers for assembling decodable reading books,

weekly math centers, stuffing Dragon folders, listening to children read, and chaperoning students on study trips.

P.E. & COMPUTER – These are our prep classes which are not only intended for student enrichment, but also give teachers time for curriculum preparation. Our specialists are: Mrs. Toy – P.E., and Mrs. Kroes - Computer.

It is very important for all students to wear TENNIS SHOES and dress appropriately on their PE days, in order to participate. The schedule is as follows:

PE - Monday and Friday (3 sessions every two weeks)

Computer - Tuesday and Thursday (3 sessions every two weeks)

CURRICULUM -

Unit 1 Open Court - Let's Read

Writing - Simple sentences, writing an autobiography, and making a class ABC Book.

Math - Review writing numbers, Addition and Subtraction Concepts, touch math

Social Studies/Character Education - Integrity

Science - Living Things

Health - Being special/feelings

BIRTHDAYS – First graders, like everyone, love birthdays. We celebrate all birthdays in our class by singing and allowing the birthday child to choose a book from the birthday box. (Summer and holiday birthdays are celebrated during the school year, before vacations) If you wish to send treats for your child's birthday, please let me know a few days in advance so that I can add it to the schedule. A prepackaged treat which can be handed out just before morning recess at 10:15, is convenient and doesn't take away too much valuable time from our regular curriculum.

I am looking forward to a great year of fun and challenge with your children. I also look forward to meeting you at Back to School Night where you will receive important information about your child's first grade year at James Leitch Elementary School. Please plan to attend this important meeting on September 25.

Thank you for your generous donations of classroom supplies. Thank you also for being a partner in your child's education. If you have questions or concerns you may contact me at school at 657-6100 EX44006 or by email at lcroft@mail.fremont.k12.ca.us

Sincerely,
Mrs. Linda Croft