

September, 2009

Dear Parents,

I am thankful for your efforts to make this a successful year for your children. Everyone brought in their school supplies in such a timely manner, and I especially appreciate how quickly you returned so many forms and covered books within the first week of school.



We are already so busy in all academics. We are currently engaged in the immersion unit of writing workshop. We are exploring authors and the topics they choose to write about. This will help your child create his/her own list of topics he/she is passionate about in the writing journal. In math we are exploring



geometry, and in about two weeks we will begin the next unit, "Using Numbers, and Organizing Data." It is imperative that your children begin to memorize their basic multiplication facts for application in future units; please help your child review

nightly. We are enjoying the current science unit, "Natural Resources and Natures Cycles." Before the end of the unit, the students will



convince you to "be green" at home. When this is completed, I will teach the first unit of social studies, "Geography of MD." We are enjoying the new anthology stories and learning "robust" vocabulary in reading. In about two weeks, your children will bring home a spelling booklet which explains their weekly homework choices. Until then, there is no spelling homework. We are taking time each day in class to review the weekly spelling strategies.



Your child may bring in a water bottle and a nutritious snack. I also advise that your child keep a sweater or sweat shirt in school; the air conditioning is quite cool.

Please read the homework pad each evening to be sure your child has completed all assignments. Then, please sign the homework pad. Each child has a reading calendar in his/her "Take Home Folder." This should be initialed each night before a school day that your child has read for at least 15 minutes. I check the homework pad and reading calendars each morning for signatures.

We go outside everyday if it is not raining so please be sure your child has appropriate shoes so he/she can run around and play.

As always, if you have any concerns about the curriculum,



homework, or your child, please contact me at school. You may email me at Kathleen.meehling@hcps.org.

Sincerely,
Kathleen Meehling