



Notes from Miss Kolter

Room 23- September 2010

Dear Families,

Day one of the 2010-2011 school year flew by! I am excited to get to know you and your children and am ready for an exciting year of learning. Over the next several weeks I will be very intentional about teaching classroom routines and expectations. Students will have many opportunities to practice and learn these routines. Your children and I will participate in many activities to get to know one another and get comfortable in our new learning community. While most of the children have attended Hiawatha in previous years, we welcome two new families to our school- the McClintocks and the Martells.

Below please find some helpful and important information for the upcoming school year:

Our Specials Schedule:

Monday- Music

Tuesday- Physical Education (don't forget sneakers!)

Wednesday- Physical Education (don't forget sneakers!) and on some weeks Learning Center (don't forget to return books)

Thursday- Art

Friday- Health/Wellness, Foreign Language/ Learning Center and Music

***Please note Learning Center and the Friday specials will rotate throughout the year. During the weeks that your student has Foreign Language, Learning Center will be on Wednesdays. When not in Foreign Language, Learning Center

will be on Fridays. I will indicate when Learning Center is on your child's weekly homework log.

Science and Social Studies Units of Study

Lake Champlain Valley Region

Eastern Woodlands

Samuel de Champlain

"Plants on the Grow"/Trees

"Let's Rock"/Rocks and Soil

"Matter Matters"/Energy: Matter, Light and Sound

Homework Guidelines:

Homework contracts will be sent home for you to review and sign at a later date. I will notify you at that time when homework will officially begin! Until then, please encourage your child to read for at least 15 minutes each night. Reading will continue to be a nightly homework expectation. Please note that homework at the third grade level should not take longer than 30 minutes. If homework routinely begins to take longer than 30 minutes please let me know and I will make necessary adjustments.

Birthdays:

If your child celebrates a birthday during the school year I am requesting that you **do not** send in any food items to share. I encourage your child to bring in a favorite picture book to share with our Class as a way to celebrate his/her special day. Summer birthdays will be celebrated the same way prior to the end of the school year.

In an effort to respect each student's feelings, please refrain from sending birthday party invitations to be distributed at school, unless the entire class is to be included.

Room 23 Newsletters:

Monthly letters will be sent home and posted on our classroom web page in order to keep you up to date on our exciting learning journey! Please email me at rkolter@CCSUVt.org with your email address if you are able to receive updates via email.

Family Volunteers:

Family members can help in many ways. Some examples are: field trips, Four Winds Science lessons, typists (typing student work), Word Study and Computer Lab Assistants. I will have opportunities to sign up to volunteer at the Open House on September 21st.

Book Orders:

Book orders will be sent home from time to time if you are interested in ordering books for child.

My older brother is getting married in Utah this Saturday. While the timing is not great, I will not be in school tomorrow or Friday so that I may attend this momentous family event. Linda Hansen, a newly retired Hiawatha teacher will be my substitute. As Linda just retired at the end of last year she is a familiar face to many of the students and is a part of the Hiawatha family. She was able to pop in today to say hello to the students. I will return with the students on Tuesday.

I am looking forward to a fantastic year with you and your child! If you ever have any questions, comments or concerns, I encourage you to email me (rkolter@CCSUVt.org) or call me at school (802) 857-7000 extension 4225 anytime!

Thanks in advance for your support!

Miss Kolter