

Dear Parents,

September 27, 2019

I am very pleased with your children thus far. Behavior continues to be very good. Students have been respectful towards each other and me. The only bump in the road has been talking. A few of the children need to work on completing work before chatting with friends.

We graded the first homework packet that I sent home last week. Thank you for any help you may have given. Please detach the parent letter from the packet so that I know that you have read it. I received quite a few packets with the letters attached, so I am not sure if parents read the letters. The September calendar with which to record the days your child read for 20 minutes is due on Monday, September 30. Please initial on the days in which your child read. I have attached an October calendar to this packet for the next month.

In reading we are practicing centers and preparing for what will be expected of the children when I am holding guided reading groups. The children are working on procedures for their independent work while I meet with small groups. We are also working on the concepts of cause and effect and structure and function.

In math we spent the last week working on place value, expanded notation, ordering of numbers, addition and subtraction. We begin working on multiplication next week. I will begin with teaching that multiplication is repeated addition and move on from there. The children will be learning multiplication and division concurrently.

On Friday at Severson Dells, the students should bring their lunches (unless you requested a school lunch) and wear comfortable clothes, as we will be out in the woods and inside at different points of the day. It is important that students dress for the weather. When properly prepared, students can enjoy being outside in almost any weather. If rain is in the forecast, please have students bring/wear raincoats. We try to follow the schedule and the planned activities as closely as possible. Of course, storms will require some changes to the day. When the weather is uncertain, students should dress in layers. Additionally, please be warned that your child will most likely get wet or muddy in the creek. We are going to be looking for creatures in a pond and a stream by walking in the water. It is a good idea to have them wear older shoes rather than their favorite, brand-new ones. The children will be bringing their backpacks so feel free to send a "dry" pair of shoes and socks (also pants?) and a bag in which to put the wet ones.

While at Severson, we are going to participate in a "Low Waste" lunch. This is a program to reduce the amount of trash we bring to lunch. After lunch, all of the waste will be weighed. We want to have a low weight, so please send as little trash as possible. Using Tupperware (or a similar product) will help a great deal. Surprisingly, Lunchables have a lot of trash in the packaging. If your child wants one, please repack it into Tupperware or reusable plastic, if possible.

We have had six parents volunteer to chaperone. If you indicated that you would like to come to Severson on the questionnaire, you are included. Please bring a lunch and dress for the weather. You will be accompanying your child outside to the various activities. There will not be a refrigerator or microwave available. Please be at school no later than 7:45. We will be leaving school by 8:00 and returning at 1:45. We have plenty of room on the bus, but if you would like to meet us at Severson, you are welcome to do that, instead. However, your child must ride the bus. Please contact me if meeting us at Severson is something you are interested in doing. I am really looking forward to the trip and am excited we have such wonderful parent participation!

Have a great weekend!      Thank You, Betsy Burgoyne