

# This & That

## September 29, 2020

Hello Parents,

This week has been a whirlwind!!! I miss seeing all of the little faces on Zoom, but I am very excited to see them all in person on Tuesday. I have been working really hard trying to make sure everything is ready for when these little ones join me in the classroom. There is a ton of information in this newsletter, so you may want to save it to reference back to...but knowing how most of the information happens, there may be changes (but I will let you know if there are)!

- 1.) No School Monday September 28
- 2.) Dismissal – Please make sure your child knows how they are going home. If they are meeting someone, please set up a meeting place that they are familiar with. I will be out there to help as well, but the first few days will be very chaotic. If you have not already done so, please email me separately with how your child will be getting home.
- 3.) Items to bring back the first day
  - HMH Book – Please remember to bring back the HMH books on the first day of school, we do not have extras.
  - Chromebooks – fully charged
- 4.) Water – Please be sure to send your child with a water bottle that has their name clearly written on it. It will be strongly discouraged to use the drinking fountains for anything other than refilling their water bottles
- 5.) Safety Bag - Today in our meeting we were discussing that each child may want to keep a "safety bag" in their backpack. This is NOT a requirement, but if you would like to do this some suggestions on things to include are: a change of clothes (this would be used only for spilled milk, falling in mud, etc. ) If a child does have a bathroom accident, which I am hoping will not happen, they will be sent to the nurse to clean up. Also in the bag could be a back up mask in a ziplock bag in case their mask gets dirty, and a small water bottle. Your child would again, leave these in their backpack and it is up to you if you would like to do that or not.
- 6.) Bathroom - the children will be able to leave the class to go to the bathroom, but we need to be careful that too many students are not going at one time. I will never tell a child they are not allowed to go to the bathroom, but please talk with your child about knowing when they have to go. Please tell them not to ask me at the last minute when they are trying to hold it and may not make it. Also, if a child is using the bathroom many many times a day and is missing instruction, I will be talking to them and their parents. While there are some reasons a child may need to go to the bathroom more often I do not want it to turn into a way to get out of work. I hope this makes sense.

7.) Specials Schedule –

Monday: PE  
Tuesday: Music  
Wednesday: Art  
Thursday: PE  
Friday: PE

8.) Headphones – It is incredibly important that your child has headphones starting the first day of school. As much of our instruction will NOT be on the chromebooks there will still be programs we will be using on them. Headphones (not earbuds) should be placed in a Ziploc bag with your child's name clearly written on it.

9.) Behavior Management - Our class will be using a computerized program called Class DoJo. This program will allow your child to earn positive points for following the classroom rules and negative points when they choose not to follow instructions in class. At the end of the day your child will color in a monthly calendar, in their take home folder, to show how their day was. The following color scale will be used.

**Blue** – Excellent Day (No Redirections)

**Green** – Good Day (1-2 redirections)

**Yellow** – Behavior needs some work (3-4 redirections)

**Red**- Parent Contact (5+ redirections or serious behavior)

When I explain this to the students, I let them know that no one is perfect and I do not expect them to be perfect. Therefore I expect student to be in green or blue daily. If a child earns a point penalty it is an opportunity for correction and we move on. If this is a constant behavior that requires attention on a daily basis then additional steps will be taken. These may include additional consequences in the classroom or a parent contact.

You will be able to log in with a code I will provide you to monitor your child's behavior throughout the day. This login will also allow me to send out class reminders. There is also a text feature that you will be able to use to send messages to me in addition email or phone calls.

10.) Since we were unable to hold our Spring Bingo last year our two parking spots are up for grabs. To enter the raffle please click the link provided and it will take you directly to the page. These spots are in the front of the parking lots and may come in handy during dismissal to have a spot that has your name on it.

[www.highlandlakesptso.com/parking](http://www.highlandlakesptso.com/parking)

I am very excited to finally see these little ones in person. I am working hard to make sure that you are in the know when I get information. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have a question.

Mrs. Burtis