



# PARENT NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 18, 2008

Happy Thursday to everyone! We are all still hard at work establishing our classroom procedures, and fostering a community based on respect, exploration and cooperation. We are well into our math curriculum, and are beginning to explore various topics in social studies, science and reading. I will soon begin sending home leveled Spanish books with each student. Please take time to read these books with your child to further practice their Spanish fluency and vocabulary. Students have daily homework of reading for at least 15 minutes, so that may be a great time to practice the Spanish books. I have also started a book sign-out, so that students can borrow other books from our classroom library (both English and Spanish). Please encourage your child to take good care of these books, as well as practice reading aloud, and help them remember to return the books to school within a week.

In order to further inspire your child's love of reading, I am sending home some Scholastic Book Order Forms. One packet has Spanish and Bilingual books available, while the other offers books based on Science and Math topics. I am currently a member of Scholastic, and thus, anytime students from my class send in book orders, we receive points to get FREE books for our classroom library. If you would like to participate, please fill out the order form completely, and **send the order form and a check made out to: SCHOLASTIC BOOK CLUBS, back to school.** For this group of order forms, please **return them by Thursday, October 9<sup>th</sup>**. Throughout the year, I will periodically send different order forms home with students, so watch for those in the future. If you would like to take the opportunity to order any of the Spanish books to donate to our classroom library, it would be greatly appreciated, as we could always use more Spanish books!

While I am on the topic of English/Spanish, I would like to let you all know for all of September, I will be using only Spanish in the classroom. Beginning in October, I will start teaching a section of English Language, which will comprise approximately 45 minutes of each day. I can say more about this at the curriculum night, this coming week, at which time I will address our various subjects, units, and procedures in the classroom.

I am excited to jump into much of our curriculum, such as studying United States geography, how the human body functions, and so on. \*Try quizzing your child on the Spanish vocabulary for various body parts!\* However, as we are beginning to explore more subjects, I have realized that in order to keep students organized, we will need a few more notebooks for them to easily find and separate work. If you could please send 3 notebooks (1 green, 1 red, 1 yellow – to go along with the folders), I would greatly appreciate it. If you have any concerns, please contact me.

*Just a few dates to keep in mind:*

**\*Curriculum Night:** September 22<sup>nd</sup> at 6:30pm

**\*Late Start:** September 23<sup>rd</sup> – school begins 2 hours later

**\*Celebrate Hispanic Heritage Event – Aztec Ceremonial Dance:** September 27 at 2:00pm at the Hopkins Library

**\*Picture Day:** September 29<sup>th</sup> – Note: Students DO NOT need to wear uniforms on this day.

It has been a pleasure meeting more of you through your volunteer work or visits to the school, and I hope to see you all at the upcoming curriculum night! Once again, feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns. ¡Qué tengan un día magnífico!