

Hooray for Fourth Grade!

Dear 4th graders and families,

July 29, 2011

Welcome to my class, and our grade!! I can't wait for all of us to get to know each other – teacher, students and families - and to create a comfortable, fun learning environment. We have so many exciting subjects and new concepts to cover this year. We will do a lot together as a whole grade, and even more with just our class.

I'll tell you a little about me. I live right here in Elwyn Park with my family. All three of my children graduated from Dondero. My son, Keenan is a sophomore at Portsmouth High School this year, and the girls – Rachel and Brianna – are in 7th grade at Portsmouth Middle School. My husband owns a sports collectibles store in Greenland, and we also have a 3-legged dog named Millie. You will get to meet her, I'm sure! When I was teenager, we moved to New Hampshire from New Jersey, and I graduated from Spaulding High School in Rochester. I have a Magazine Journalism degree from Syracuse University, and my Master's in Elementary Education from UNH. I did take 10 years off to stay home with my children, but I've been back in the Portsmouth School system for 4 years.

I love living in New Hampshire, and being a 4th grade teacher makes me love it even more ~ our entire Social Studies curriculum this year is learning about our state: its history, government, culture, climate, wildlife, economics, and how all of these are tied to the larger world around us. In science, we'll learn about energy sources, weathering and erosion, animal life cycles and more. Our biggest focus this year in math is becoming experts at our times tables, along with all the other concepts we will touch upon and master. In reading and writing, we will continue to build upon the good practices we've learned in other grades, and start using those to think more deeply and talk about our reading and writing with me, and with each other. In partnership with parents' support we have a great year of field trips, adventures and exploring planned; to include going to the State House in Concord, a hydro-electric plant in Manchester and a beach clean-up in September. So save the date ~ **Friday September 16.**

To help us get to know each other better, I'd like you to bring a few things with you the first day of school.

1. A list of all the books you've read this summer (author and title) with a rating bad = 1 star up to fantastic = 5 stars
2. One piece of writing to share with the class the first day – a story about anything you want. It can be fiction or non-fiction.
3. One book you are reading from home that you think is Just Right.
4. The supplies from our grade level list, which will be added to the classroom supplies to be shared by everyone.

Feel free to contact me with any questions or comments you may have before then at my e-mail, llisbon@portsmouth.k12.nh.us or 436-2231.

Enjoy the rest of your summer!

Love,
Mrs. Lisbon

Lisbon Supply List (4th grade)

- * 1 spiral notebook
- * metal hand held pencil sharpener - metal where the pencil is sharpened, plastic for the part where shavings are put is fine, the sharpener part needs to be metal.
- * markers, either broad or fine tip
- *pencil top erasers
- * several thin, fine-point, black sharpies
- * Tissues! 😊