Welcome to a new school year. I’m excited to be back in Seldovia, and I’m looking forward to a wonderful year with your child. While the especially warm summer was a nice treat, it seems that it’s time for some rain!

**WEEKLY BULLETIN**

 Look for this bulletin to come home on the first school day of each week. (It will not usually be this lengthy!) If your child doesn’t offer the bulletin to you, please ask to see it. I’ll use this to let you know what is going on in our classroom along with scheduled school-wide events. By next week, I’ll also post the bulletin on our classroom blog page in case the original is lost. I’ll give you directions to the blog in next week’s bulletin.

**CONTACTING ME**

If you ever have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me. I can be reached at school (234-7616) or on my cell (907-290-0068) after 4:15. My e-mail address is kbornheimer@kpbsd.k12.ak.us and I check that frequently. Another option would be to stop by the classroom before or after school.

If you want to let me know about afterschool plans for your child, please contact Amy in the office. I don’t check my cell during the day. It is also sometimes difficult to check my email after the school day starts.

**LUNCH**

 While our class goes to lunch at noon, lunch count is taken first thing in the morning. Please be sure your child knows then whether he/she is having a lunch from home or a school lunch.

You can access an online version of the lunch menu on the district website.

**NAMES PLEASE!**

 Please label everything that comes to school with your child’s name or initials. This is especially important for P.E. shoes, lunch boxes, backpacks, and jackets. If you don’t have a permanent marker at home, you are welcome to stop by and borrow one. Thanks!

**ABSENCES**

The district requires that parents excuse all absences. You can satisfy this requirement by sending me a note before your child is absent, if it is a planned absence. If we don’t know your child will be absent, you’ll probably be getting a call from Amy in the office unless you call her first! Thanks for your cooperation.

**WATER BOTTLE**

 Children are encouraged to bring a water bottle to school. Please be sure the bottle has some type of cover that allows the child to drink without completely removing the lid so that if the bottle tips, the water is contained (or at least slowed). This should eliminate accidental spills that ruin textbooks or electronic equipment. Thanks!

**ARRIVAL TIME**

 While our school has a handbook, most of what is covered in it applies only to middle and high school students. One thing that does apply to our class is the arrival time. The handbook states that children should not arrive before 8:10. We understand that sometimes you have something to do that requires dropping your child off before 8:10. Just let me know so that I can expect the early arrival.

**DISMISSAL**

Elementary and middle school students are dismissed at 3:10 each day. Unless you’ve talked to me or Amy, I’ll expect you to pick up your child. If it is okay for us to release your child to walk from school without your presence, please send a note (or an email) that we can keep on file.

This year I’ll be teaching a high school class that begins at 3:15. If you are running late to pick up your child, please check the high school science room when you arrive.

**SHARING**

 Your child’s assigned sharing day is listed below. If your child is in kindergarten, first grade, or second grade and forgets to share on the assigned day, he or she is welcome to share later in the week.

**Monday:** Ada, Cece, Nils, Sugar

**Tuesday:** Aven, Wyatt, Presley

**Wednesday:** Cory, Ivan, Mark

**Thursday:** 3rd and 4th graders

**Friday:** 5th graders

 Sharing is a time for children to practice talking in front of peers in a relaxed, informal setting. It is also a great opportunity for children to learn to listen attentively to each other and to ask and respond to questions.

 For the most part, third, fourth, and fifth graders have mastered these skills, and many are no longer as excited about sharing. They are welcome to share on those occasions they have something special.

 Each week’s sharing will have a focus or theme. This week’s sharing should be related to summer vacation. Children can bring an object or just talk about an experience.

Next week the theme will be the outdoors. Children can bring in or discuss a treasure they found outside.

**DAILY SCHEDULE**

In next week’s bulletin I’ll be able to share our daily schedule with you. We are still working out some details.

**SCHOOL SUPPLIES**

 Below is a list of supplies that each child should have at school by the middle of September.

**Required:**

* 1 large box of Kleenex
* Crayons (box of 24 is fine)
* Pencils (send a few with your child and replenish as needed)
* Erasers (those that fit on the end of a pencil work best)
* PE shoes (shoes that tie or Velcro with non-marking soles)
* 1 two-pocket folder (pockets at the bottom work best)
* 1 pencil box
* 4 large glue sticks (send two now and the other two when your child lets you know he or she needs more)
* 1 backpack

**Optional:** Colored pencils, markers, scissors.

 Please do not send binders or spiral notebooks with your child. If we end up using those, I have a class supply of them. Extras take up too much room in the desk.

 The two-pocket folder mentioned above will go back and forth between home and school each day. We’ll label one side “home” and the other side “school”. Those items on the side marked “home” are things that can stay at home. Items on the “school” side need to be returned to school. I’d appreciate your help in reminding your student about the folder until it becomes a routine.