**SHARING**

Sharing this week is Children’s Choice. There isn’t an assigned topic—almost anything goes!

For sharing next week, children should bring and show us an object that begins with the same letter as his/her first name.

**THANK YOU**

Students are doing an excellent job remembering their home/school folders. Thank you for assisting them in establishing this important habit.

**REMINDERS**

Any book orders are due this Friday, September 6th.

**SNACK MONEY**

Thanks to those of you who have already sent in snack money. I appreciate it.

**SCIENCE**

Science is generally divided into three major fields in elementary school—earth science, life science, and physical science. To ensure that science is a hands-on experience with experiments and investigations in our multiage classroom, we focus on one of the major fields of science each year.

Our class will be learning about physical science this year. For each topic in that field, we cover the entire range of information from kindergarten through fifth grade. The rotation schedule allows children to experience all science concepts twice during their elementary school years—once when they are younger and then again in the upper elementary grades. Information taught to the younger students serves as an excellent review for the older students. Although younger students are exposed to the information taught to the older students, there is no expectation of mastery for the younger students. We consider it a preview.

Students will begin science this year by learning about motion.

**ASSESSMENT**

This week students will be taking the district-required assessments. I administer the tests individually to the younger students. For the third through fifth graders, most of these are online. We talk about the fact that the tests are a starting point and tell me what students already know so I don’t make them practice something they’ve learned.

**HANDWRITING**

All grade levels have been working on handwriting for about 15 minutes daily.

Kindergarteners are getting an initial introduction to forming the letters of the alphabet. We’ll be focusing quite a bit on the letters in their names.

First and second graders are reviewing the proper formation of the D’Nealian manuscript alphabet.

Our third graders are being introduced to the D’Nealian cursive alphabet.

Fourth and fifth graders are reviewing the proper formation of the cursive alphabet.

My goal is to have children write quickly and efficiently and still maintain an acceptable level of legibility.