**SHARING**

 The theme for sharing this week is the outdoors. Children can bring something they found outside or tell us about an adventure they had outside.

 Sharing next week will be Children’s Choice. There isn’t an assigned topic.

**NO SCHOOL**

There won’t be school next Monday, September 4th due to the Labor Day holiday. I hope you have an enjoyable long weekend!

**THANK YOU**

Wow! Just about every child had a home/school folder on the first day of school last week. If your child doesn’t have a folder, please get one as soon as possible. Most children also did an excellent job of bringing their home/school folder back and forth each day. Thank you!

**SNACK**

 The class will be having a light snack at about 10:20 each day. By then most children are hungry, and the snack makes the second half of the morning more productive. I’m asking that parents contribute $5 per quarter per child to help cover this expense. I also use snack money to buy ingredients when we bake in the classroom. Thanks!

**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 earth science this year. For each topic, we cover the entire range of information from kindergarten through sixth 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.

 Our first topic this year will be weather.

**SCHEDULE**

 We have a tentative schedule for the class, but it is still subject to change. The class will go to P.E. on Monday and Wednesday from 1:40 until 2:10. They will go to library from 11:30 until 11:55 on Wednesday. I’m still working music into the schedule. We have art on Friday afternoons. Students have recess at 10:00 in the morning, at 12:30 after lunch, and then again around 2:00 in the afternoon.

**LIBRARY**

 Children have started to check out library books. Kindergarteners and first graders are allowed to check out one book. Students in all other grades are allowed to check out the number of books that matches their grade level. Books can be kept for two weeks. After that they are considered overdue, and children are not able to check out additional books until the overdue book is returned or paid for. We’ll be going to the library each Wednesday so it would be great if your child had books returned by then.

**BOOK ORDERS**

 The first book orders of the year are attached to this bulletin. If you choose to order and pay by check, please make the check payable to Scholastic rather than to me. This order is due by Friday, September 8th. Ordering is always optional.

 I think we are off to a great start this year. Please let me know if your child is having any problems or if you have concerns.