

Sept. 3, 2015

Dear Parents,

I hope you all had a great summer and welcome to the school year 2015-2016!

I am thrilled to be your child's teacher this year. I have been teaching in Massachusetts for more than 20 years in both private and public school settings. I am licensed to teach in regular education and special education. This will be my 6th year at the Conley School.

As we bid goodbye to summer, we welcome the new season with the hope that we all remain healthy. You may have noticed that sometimes we experience chilly mornings and breezy afternoons. Students stay outdoors during P.E. and recess when the weather permits. Please make sure you **send your child to school dressed appropriately for the weather** to avoid getting sick. If your child is coughing, you may send cough drops and when your child is having a runny nose, please send tissues.

### **Re: Absences & Truancy**

- Students are allowed 4 unexcused absences per term. An attendance card or truancy card will be filed for students who have excessive absences per term.
- If your child missed school due to illness or medical appointments, please remember to send a doctor's note when your child comes back to school.
- For other matters, please consult the office or send a note to the office.

***Doctor's Notes & other Excuse letters go to the office so all communication about your child's absence should be separate (not written in the Communication Notebook).***

### **Re: Homework and Assessments**

- ✓ Homework is given as practice at home to retain what they have learned during the week. I usually give homework that your child should be able to do independently.
- ✓ You may assist your child when doing homework and check for understanding. Please let me know if your child is experiencing any difficulties by writing in the Communication Notebook.
- ✓ Formative Assessments monitor student learning, provide ongoing feedback, identify student's strengths, and target areas that need work.  
(e.g. student's oral & written work, performance tasks, notebook entries, classroom observations, conferencing, portfolio pieces, Fountas & Pinnell Benchmark Assessment)
- ✓ Summative Assessments evaluate student learning relative to content standards.  
(e.g. district benchmark assessments, end-of-unit tests, end-of-year tests, PARCC )
- ✓ Third graders will be taking **district assessments** and the statewide **PARCC** assessments **online** this year. They need to be able to take these assessments on their own. If possible, let your child **PRACTICE KEYBOARDING** at home if you have access to computers or in your neighborhood's library.

**If you have any questions or concerns, please write in the Communication Notebook for immediate attention or come and see me so we can address your concerns promptly.**

I am delighted and privileged to be part of your child's education and I look forward to meeting and working with you. Let's all have a great year!

Thanks,  
Ms. Nery