



A Note From I-B



Tuesday, September 2, 2008

Dear Parent(s),

We had a fantastic first day of school in I-B! Throughout the next couple of weeks, the children will be busy familiarizing themselves with our daily routine, the specialist schedule and making new friends. As I get to know your children, I will be facilitating community-building activities that will enable I-B to form a solid foundation for a successful school year.

Attached you will find the answers to most of the questions you may have at this point in the school year. All of this and more will be reviewed at Back To School Night on Wednesday, September 17.

I am very excited about having your child in class and am looking forward to working with you. The first grade will forever be a milestone in your child's education and I am thrilled to be a part of that! See you at Back To School Night!

Sincerely,

Sarah Byrnes

Save The Date

- Friday, September 12: Ice Cream Social from 6:00-7:15
- Wednesday, September 17: Parents Back To School Night
6:45-7:15, Grades 3-5
7:20-7:50, Grades K-2
- Friday, September 19: School Pictures
- Tuesday, September 30: No School, Rosh Hashanah

School Hours and Dismissal

The school day begins at 8:30. Weather permitting, children arrive to school between 8:15 and 8:25 and free play in the back of the building. Children will enter the building when the bell rings at 8:30. Please make every effort to have your child here on time; our routine begins each morning at 8:30. School is dismissed at 3:05 and at noon on Wednesdays. At dismissal, I will dismiss children who ride the bus and children in WCCC to the appropriate locations. I will walk children to the circle out front for parent pick-up. Your child's safety is very important to me, therefore, I have told the children that I need to make eye contact with a family member before they run to meet you. If your child has alternate dismissal plans, please send in a note. I will not send your child home with another adult without having received permission from you.

Specials

Monday	Music
Tuesday	*Physical Education
Wednesday	Music
Thursday	Art
Friday	**Library

*Note that we have Physical Education on Tuesdays, please be sure your child is dressed appropriately.

*Please help your child remember to bring in his or her library book on Fridays.

Questions, comments, concerns...

Should you need to contact me, you can send a note in with your child, call and leave a voicemail or send e-mail. Since your child will empty his or her own folder, if you have a letter that you do not want your child to read please seal it in an envelope with my name on it. Also, please know that if you leave a voice mail, I will not get your message until after dismissal, as I do not check messages during the school day. Call the main office directly if there is a change in your dismissal arrangements and Barbara O'Brien will let me know. The best way to reach me is via e-mail at sarah_byrnes@wellesley.k12.ma.us. I am typically able to respond to e-mails within 24 hours and am always willing to set up a time to meet or speak on the phone if necessary.

Homework

Homework in the first grade is primarily about developing responsibility. The children are responsible for bringing home the assignment, completing it with a parent's guidance, and returning it to school. These skills will help to serve your child throughout his or her school years. Your child should read out loud for about ten minutes every night. A weekly reading log is also enclosed in this folder. Please read with your child tonight, complete tonight's reading and return it to school tomorrow. In addition to reading each night, homework will be sent home on Monday and Wednesday nights. Homework sent home Monday is due on Wednesday and homework assigned Wednesday is due on Friday.

Birthdays

We will be acknowledging your child's birthday in school with a special birthday sticker, song, and a compliment party. Summer babies will celebrate their half birthdays. In accordance with our wellness policy, please thank you for refraining from sending in birthday treats or favors.