

June, 2010

Dear Parents,

I hope you are having a fun summer! I am looking forward to a little bit of travel East, lots of gardening and catching up around my house, and just hanging with my family.

The enclosed list includes most things that we use almost everyday in the room. The binder is particularly important for the new 4ths to know about. All year long we choose our best works and collect them in this binder. We build this for 3 years, so even though a 3” binder sounds big, it gets very crammed full even by the end of year one. In fact, you might want to consider asking your 5th or 6th years if they need the larger size.

Also, please note that our cubbies are rather small and just barely fit a stack of filled folders, composition books, and a pencil case. Think **small** in terms of storing things (pencil bags etc).

On another note, we do a great deal of work on computers, especially with Microsoft Word. If you are not already equipped with a computer, this summer might be a good time to investigate ways your child could get access to one for assignments—aunts, uncles, libraries, neighbors are all okay options and would really help your child succeed in Upper El. Most writing assignments are done on the computer, and Study Island is a requirement and needs internet access. Practicing typing skills with fun typing software ie: *Spongebob* or *Mavis Beacon* are fun and help your child build their speed and skills. Along with this I am adding a required **flash drive** (a small storage stick) for each child. Last year we were sharing and it was very confusing sometimes! If each student has his or her own they will not have to waste time hunting for their work. You can find them almost anywhere and small ones are just perfect for us. All the children are familiar with them.

If you have any questions about anything on the list or anything at all I am happy to answer them by e-mail: meanders@jeffco.k12.co.us. I may not always get back to you quickly with my travels, but I am checking periodically!

Hope you and your children have a great summer—keep them reading and practicing their multiplication tables, and of course, having fun! That's what summer is for!

Looking forward seeing everyone back in August!

Beth Anderson