

Dear Families,

Welcome to the Multi-Age classroom! I am thrilled at the opportunity to facilitate this new facet of the NCSA community. I think this is a beautiful model for learning, and I am looking forward to working with you. I am currently organizing and getting our classroom ready. I am also conferring with Coral, Angie, and Robin to coordinate curriculum. Our class will share some field trips with the 2nd and 3rd grade, while we are exploring similar themes.

The first six weeks we will practice routines for how to “be”. We will work on respect and cooperation. I try to follow the guidelines in Teaching Children to Care. We will create rules, have morning meetings and slowly move into the core of the curriculum. Our first unit of study will center on the garden. We will work together to learn about the environment and our place in it. We will use the garden site as a life lab to observe the interdependence of life on our planet.

We have our first class meeting/picnic scheduled for Monday August 11th, 5pm at the school. I look forward to seeing you and your children before school starts. If you cannot attend please let me know via e-mail (reanrick@earthlink.net). I have included the supply list (below). I will supply each student with a pencil sharpener.

Supply List

Everyone should bring in..

- One pocket folder with brads (fasteners) for all loose papers
- 20-30 pencils to share
- One glue stick
- Scotch tape (to share with everyone) We will collect this at the beginning of the year to get us through the entire year!
- A ream of unlined paper for all the millions of creative things they love to make!
- A backpack that will fit into a cubby (no wheels please)
- A sketch book (a collection of blank pages) for daily sketching
- A box of latex-free band-aids
- A box of unscented tissues

Please no bulky binders, pencil boxes or toys to start the year. Each student may bring in one small “stuffy” to keep in the cubby but nothing else please. Our space is small, and the added items often create distractions. Please sharpen all pencils before sending them in-it is really helpful! This year we will be sharing our things to help us work on and understand respect of materials. Please send me your email address so that I can start a class list. I am looking forward to working with all of you!

Sincerely,
Maria Dicintio