

August 10, 2011

Dear Kindergarten Parents and Guardians:

Welcome to the Westhampton Beach Elementary School family! As the new principal of Westhampton Beach Elementary School, it is my sincere pleasure and honor to welcome you and your child to Kindergarten, a major milestone in your child's life! The Westhampton Beach faculty and staff look forward to sharing an exciting, fun-filled, and educational Kindergarten experience with you. The start of your child's elementary school year journey begins on Tuesday, September 6th, 2011.

In order to ensure a successful transition into Kindergarten, we begin the year with an introduction to Kindergarten. This includes a visit to your child's new class prior to the start of school, as well as half days for the first week of school. The half days will run from 8:30 a.m. - 12:00 noon on Tuesday, September 6th – Friday, September 9th. During this half-day time, all children are encouraged to ride the school bus to establish routines and learn important safety procedures. Please complete the enclosed form with your choice of transportation for your child and return it on the first day of school. Please note that beginning on Monday, September 12th, the full day Kindergarten program begins from 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. each day.

Enclosed you will find an introduction letter from your child's teacher which includes a school supply list. We have also included a nametag listing the name of your child's teacher. It should be worn during the first few days of school. Please take a moment to label your child's personal belongings. You will also find our dismissal procedures (for half-day dismissal and for full-day dismissal), and some tips for a successful start to kindergarten. In the coming weeks you will also be receiving our K-5 mailing which will contain a school calendar, lunch menu, bus routes, information about our "We Care" program, as well as free or reduced lunch application, and other pertinent information.

Since students will not be eating lunch in school during the half days, we suggest that you pack a healthy snack for your child. A light breakfast is available at 8:15 a.m. each day for \$1.25, which is eaten in a classroom under the supervision of a faculty member.

Family and community involvement is extremely important to the success of a school and it is no secret that the school and home working together is a powerful force in a child's life. Therefore, I invite you to attend our first PTA meeting of the school year on Wednesday, September 14th, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. All families are welcome and encouraged to join. Finally, I would like to invite you to meet your child's teacher at Back to School Night on Tuesday, September 20th, 2011 at 6:00 p.m.

Best regards for a healthy and enjoyable close to your summer. We are looking forward to an exciting and productive year ahead! If you have any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to call the school at 288-3800 ext. 231. Welcome aboard!

Sincerely,

Lisa A. Slover, Ed.S.
Principal