

Room 229 News

Mrs. Myrsini Smith
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September 2019

Dear Families,

It was a pleasure meeting many of you last week. We had a **fantastic** first week and I look forward to working with you and being part of this important time in your child's growth and development. Each month, you will receive a newsletter most likely via email, which will update you on the activities and events taking place in our classroom. Additional information can be accessed through the class webpage located under "Teacher Pages" on the Chandler School website. This web page is a work in progress, but I think you will find it to be a helpful resource. <http://www.duxbury.k12.ma.us/Domain/624> You can also follow us on Instagram @teamsmith229 to see our team in action.

During the first few weeks of school, we will be getting to know each other, the classroom, the school, and our new routines. We encourage the children to be respectful of others and the materials in the classroom. They are encouraged to be "GREEN", which stands for: **Great friend to all, Respect, Expected behavior, Encourage safe choices, and Never give up!** I believe that if children feel happy, safe, and respected in their classroom, they will be able to take the risks necessary for learning.

Throughout the month of September, we will be getting to know your children and establishing a routine they will follow for the rest of the year. We will be observing them, interacting with them, and assessing their knowledge of numbers, letters, and letter sounds. All of the information we gather will be shared with you at our first parent/teacher conference in October.

Our schedule consists of a 120-minute literacy block, which includes shared reading and writing, independent reading and writing, and guided reading. We also have 75 minutes of math daily. Science, social studies, technology, movement, socialization, creative and dramatic play and various "specials" are included in our schedule at different times throughout the week. We visit the library on Fridays at 10:00 in the morning. Children will have the opportunity to check out books for use at home. They are expected to return these books on or before the following Friday so that they may check out a new one during their scheduled special. We also have gym on Monday and Wednesday. Please make sure your child wears comfortable clothing and **sneakers** to school those days.

I am interested in having parents/guardians volunteer in the classroom. Our homeroom parent will be sending out information regarding volunteer opportunities in our class. We will be using **SignUpGenius** this year to sign up. Your time and help is always greatly appreciated! Please sign up at least a week in advance to allow me to prepare for your assistance. Completion of our volunteer orientation program and state CORI form is required of all new volunteers prior to working in the classroom. If you have volunteered in Duxbury Public Schools in the past, you must sign a confidentiality form before volunteering in the classroom. Following conferences, you will be able to find the link on my web page online. You can also email with your availability if it is more convenient.

Finally, Chandler school will be hosting an Open House on Wednesday, September

11th at 6:00. Mark your calendars and please **try to arrange childcare for this event**. On this evening, you will be seeing a small glimpse of your child's daily Kindergarten experience. Parking may be difficult. Please try to arrive no later than 5:55 so that you will not miss the start of my presentation. If you ever have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me by email, note, or phone call.

Warm Regards,
Mrs. Smith,
Mrs. Powers & Mrs. White



Important Dates:

- September 2nd - No School, Labor Day
- September 11th - Chandler School Open House 6:00 – 7:30 PM rm 229
- September 24th - Early Dismissal 12:10, Professional Development

Literacy

We will be using a combination of Collaborative Classroom's **Making Meaning** program, Foundations phonics program, and Reader's Workshop. The first unit's essential question is: How do we live, work, and play together?

Math

We will be using the program EnVision Math 2.0. EnVision Math 2.0 focuses on in-depth Math Clusters, develops in-depth understanding, and connects mathematical content and practice standards. Topic 1's essential question is: How can numbers from 0-5 be counted, read, and written? More information will be provided at our Open House. You can also access Chandler's Curriculum webpage by clicking [here](#) .

