August 2021

Dear 5th Grade Students and Families,

Welcome to 5th grade and to our 5S family! My name is Ms. Mary Sunderland, and I am excited to be your teacher this year.

I hope you were able to enjoy the sunny skies and refreshing air of our summer months! Spending time outdoors is so important to me. I love to ride my bike, hike, sit outside and read or talk with my neighbors. What is something important to you? I can’t wait to get to know you.

5th grade is such a special year, and I know we will have an amazing year together. This will be my 7th year teaching at Merion. Before coming to Merion, I taught in elementary schools in Maryland and Pennsylvania. No matter the location of the classroom, one of my goals is to create a place of belonging, where kindness and respect allow each student to feel welcome and secure as they grow and learn. I am looking forward to our first day on September 9th when we will start building our classroom community together. Until then, enjoy the last few days of summer!

Warmly,

Ms. Sunderland

P.S. Students, before school starts, please ask your parents to email me at sunderm@lmsd.org to introduce you and themselves to me. I look forward to hearing from your family!
**Suggested Supply List**

- One 1 1/2" Binder (please no zippers or soft covers)
  The Staples 'better brand' that is reinforced with rubber works best.
- One spiral, single subject, wide-ruled notebook
- Four dry erase markers (wide or chisel pointed)
- One pack of colored pencils
- Highlighters – at least two
- One pack (24) of sharpened pencils
- One handheld pencil sharpener
- Erasers – at least two (no toy erasers)
- One soft pencil case with holes
- One clipboard
- Headphones or earbuds
- Individual size of hand sanitizer (to keep at desk)
- Water bottle

Classroom donations are greatly appreciated! * Individual packs of tissues or 1-2 box(es) of tissues

Note: I will provide a math binder, folders, reinforcements, calculator, ruler, scissors, glue stick, post-it notes, loose-leaf and graph paper, pencil box, and assignment planner.

Suggested Keep at Home Supplies
To be prepared for all learning scenarios, it would be helpful if students gather the below supplies and keep in a box at home. In case there is a need for remote learning, having these supplies ready to go at home will aid students in making a smooth transition. These supplies are also helpful for students to have at home in general for school projects and homework assignments.
- Pencils, pencil sharpener, highlighters, colored pencils, dry erase markers, dry erase whiteboard, ruler, glue stick, scissors, graph paper, loose-leaf paper, post-it notes, headphones