

August 31, 2011

Dear Parents,

I am excited to share the coming year with you and your students. We will be learning many new concepts and practicing many new skills this year. The students will be assessed in reading, writing, and math skills during the first 2 weeks of school. These will not be part of their grade but will help me plan lessons that will better serve your students' needs.

More specific expectations about projects, outside reading, homework, and classroom management will be given to your student in class and to you at back to school night and will be posted on the 5th grade web page. We will be using the assignment notebook daily to keep track of work to be completed and upcoming due dates. **You will need to check and sign it every weekend to let me know you have seen it.** Any missing work from the previous week should be highlighted by your student and completed over the weekend for partial credit.

Attached is a permission form for **Safety Patrol Volunteers**. Please read and discuss this ministry with your child. I will create a schedule beginning next week, Tuesday, September 7. Every volunteer will be assigned one or two days per week that they need to stay after school for Safety Patrol until about 3:05. This is an important responsibility. Please allow your child to volunteer only if both parents and child are willing to keep the commitment. **I need the permission forms back no later than Thursday, September 1** so that I can make the schedule. We will have a short training during recess on Friday, September 2.

Please feel free to e-mail or call at any time to schedule a conference or just ask a question. My goal is to respond to messages within 24 hours. Please save conversations about your student for private conferences, not in the breezeway or classroom when others are present. It is important to respect your student's privacy in these matters.

I look forward to a fun and exciting year with all of you!

Sincerely,

E-mail – sharrell@stmarysspokane.org

Phone – 924-3400 ext. 57