May 26, 2015

Dear Families,

It has been an absolute pleasure working with all of your children this year! The kids have grown amazingly in all areas. Thank you for all your support including helping in the classroom, donating snack, reading emails and notes that come home, helping your child with projects and weekly homework, chaperoning field trips and so many other ways. Thank you for believing in me as your child's teacher and trusting that I am doing the best I can to teach your child.

In the narrow confines of a crowded classroom the children and I have grown close. We have lived, loved, laughed, played, studied, learned, and enriched our lives together this year. Remember that I will always be interested in your child and their destiny, wherever they go, whatever they do, whoever they become. Their joys and sorrows I'll always be happy to share. Please encourage the 2^{nd} grade age children to stop by and see me once in a while as they grow up. I am SO blessed to get to work with the 1^{st} grade age children again next year \odot

Something really important you can do for your child this summer is to <u>expect them to</u> <u>read, write, and do mathematical thinking almost everyday</u>. Research shows that kids can lose up to 3 months of learning over the summer and it can take at least that long to get it back in the fall. I really do <u>not</u> want this to happen to your child. I am sending home a math/ writing homework menu and summer reading challenge to help with this. Total, this should take less than 30 minutes a day. I'll put a copy on our class website in case the original gets lost over the summer.

Look for continued emails and blog updates throughout the summer and I hope to see many of you at Noah's Garden on our gathering dates.

Yours in Sharing the Love of Learning,

Mrs. Kedra Hamilton

<u>Math/Writing Calendar Directions</u>: Complete at least 40 boxes over the entire summer. Cross off and an adult initial when the box is complete.

<u>Reading Challenge:</u> Read at least 15 just-right books, record them, and have a parent sign that they were read.

Return Summer Homework the first week of school in August to join me for Lunch Bunch and a prize.