



## PHILOMATH ELEMENTARY

239 South 16<sup>th</sup> Street, Philomath Oregon, 97370  
Phone: 541-929-3253 Fax: 541-929-3281  
Susan Halliday, Principal Susan.Halliday@philomath.k12.or.us

August 27, 2019

Dear Families,

My name is Melissa Patterson and I am so excited to be working with you and your child this year. This will be my fifth year teaching at PES. A little bit about me: I grew up in Sherwood, OR and have lived back down here (Corvallis/Albany) for the past eight years. As far as my education background goes, I received my Bachelors in Human Development and Family Sciences with a focus on early childhood education in 2009 from Oregon State University and went on to receive my Masters in Teaching in 2011 from George Fox University.

Here is some information about our class this year:

**Snack:** Feel free to send an *individual* snack for your child each day. We will have a designated snack break right before *morning* recess each day. Snacks might include: crackers, individual cheeses, fruit snacks, baby carrots, apple slices, peeled oranges, bananas. Please help your child make healthy choices for his or her snacks.

**Drinks:** To help reduce the number of water breaks outside of the classroom, each child may bring a well-sealed water bottle with their name on it to keep in the classroom and refill.

**P.E.: Monday/Wednesday**

**Music: Tuesday/Thursday**

- Please try to have students wear tennis shoes and appropriate clothes on P.E. days.

**New this year:**

**Library w/Mrs. Reese will be on Tuesday's** (every other week) &

**Fantastic Falcons with Mrs. Williams** (non-library Tuesday's)

**Weekly Folders:** You will be seeing a *Friday Folder* come home (typically once a week). This is where you will find important handouts and notes, as well as homework from me. Please be sure to remove these papers and return the folder with your child, on the next school day.

**Homework:** I ask that students spend up to, but no more than, 20 minutes on homework each night; this includes reading! Homework will consist of a weekly reading worksheet and that is the *only* homework that will need to be turned in by the following Friday. Math homework will

simply be to practice math flash cards, which students will be bringing home. Additionally, don't forget to study those spelling words!

**Spelling:** Your child will be bringing a list of spelling words home on Friday's in their Friday Folder, to study for the following week. They will need to practice their spelling words a little each night and there will be a test each Friday morning. These words come from our reading curriculum each week. The first list will be sent home Friday, Sept. 6<sup>th</sup>.

**Birthdays:** To celebrate your child's birthday, a day will be arranged as close to their actual birthday as possible (will typically coincide with their Star of the Week)\*. If you would like, you may bring a special (store bought) treat for the class (23 students). Your child may bring the treat to school or you may come to help serve at a prearranged time that is convenient for the teacher/class.

\*We will have summer birthdays celebrated near their half birthday. Please have your child bring to my attention if you plan to bring a treat (or feel free to send me an email).

**Volunteers:** The district now has their volunteer form online, which will allow quicker processing for parents to get approved! Wahoo! I will have information available at Open House for you to sign up to volunteer with our class, if you haven't done so already. There will be opportunities to volunteer on field trips, parties, in the classroom with students or helping with other classroom needs. Please make sure you have turned in the district volunteer application within the last **three** years (or complete an online application ASAP). If you are unsure if you have a volunteer form up to date, check with our wonderful office staff – they have a list.

**Contact:** Email is the best way to get in touch with me. My email is [Melissa.Patterson@philomath.k12.or.us](mailto:Melissa.Patterson@philomath.k12.or.us). I'm also constantly updating our class website with important information, pictures, etc. Please feel free to check it out. <http://misspattersonpes.weebly.com/> Additionally, I will often be available after school if you would like to schedule a conference to talk in person.

Thank you and here's to a great year in 2<sup>nd</sup>!

Melissa Patterson  
Melissa.Patterson@philomath.k12.or.us  
541-929-3253