

June 13, 2011

Dear Fourth Grade Center Student,

Welcome to Clearspring Elementary School. We are so happy you will be joining us for the 2011-2012 school year. Coming to a new school can be a big adjustment, but we are convinced that you and your family have made the right decision. We have many exciting units planned for you next year, including: Greek Mythology, Native Americans, Immigration, Ecology, Geology, Chemistry, and Medieval Times. We will also read interesting novels and articles regarding the units that we study. In addition, we encourage you to pursue your own interests. Every fourth grade center student completes an independent research project that allows him or her to explore a topic of their own choosing.

We plan to take a few exciting field trips. We will sail on the Patapsco River to study systems and interactions within the Chesapeake Bay watershed. We will visit Woodland Manor to experience how Maryland's Native Americans lived. Some other possible trips are: The Maryland Science Center, The Baltimore Aquarium, Olney Theater, and Annapolis. In addition, we will have an artist in residence who will teach the art of Sumi-e Brush painting.

We are looking forward to an exciting year. Before you come to your new classrooms, allow us to introduce ourselves. Ms. McGinn lives in Bethesda, Maryland. She loves to read and travel. Mrs. Klein is a native of Maryland. She lives in Mount Airy with her husband Matthew, and her two children, Sarah and Jacob. She enjoys outdoor activities, history, and nature. Mrs. Whalen and her family live right here in Damascus. She enjoys math, science, nature, and watching sporting events.

We look forward to meeting you in August. Our school will host its *Open-House*, Thursday, August 25th from 2-3. Feel free to stop by to say hello and become acquainted with your new classroom and school.

See you on August 25th,
Mrs. Klein, Mrs. Whalen, and Ms. McGinn



WELCOME NEW CLEARSRPING HUSKY!