This week I will assess students on our Beginning-of-the-Year benchmarks. See last week's Newsletter for more information on benchmarks. I look forward to discussing the results of these benchmarks at our conference. I have included a schedule of our Parent Conferences in today's Maroon Longhorn Folder. I tried to schedule each conference with your preference in mind, however there were a couple of overlaps. Please let me know, if you are unable to attend on the day/time listed. I will be glad to reschedule.

Our school cafeteria is required to use a program called "Offer vs. Serve". This program allows students to choose what they want. It works great for breakfast, because the choices are cereal or another option. If students do not like the other option, they can always have cereal. At lunch students also choose what they want on their tray. I am not allowed to help your child as they walk through the line. In our classroom we are going over the food choices that will be offered. I am encouraging students to say yes to the first item, because it's usually the protein and the main dish. Students must take <u>only three</u> items, one of which must be a vegetable/fruit. The best choice is to take all items that are offered! Some children are not eating much at lunch and they are hungry at the end of the day. Please review the lunch menu with your child each day. This is an excellent opportunity to teach and reinforce healthy eating choices. Our cafeteria has very good and healthy food. However, your child has to ask for this food, before they can eat it.

I am excited to hear that so many of you are working with your child on our sight words. Please remember that your child needs to practice these words 2-3 times a week. Once your child is able to read certain words consistently, they do not have to keep practicing those words. We will be adding words as the year progresses. I have added the high frequency words (<u>I, is, the, a, & my</u>) to our list. Our sight word list is on the back of this letter.

Today we began our state adopted Math program. You will find math papers in your child's homework folder. Stapled to the pages that we do together in class, will be a Homework paper. You do not have to send this homework paper back to school. However, I encourage you to help your child with this paper. The directions are at the bottom. This is a good way to see what your child is learning at school during math.

Please clean out the extra papers in your child's backpack and folder each night. This includes Friday nights too. We send home a lot of "stuff" each day, which makes backpacks and folders very full, if not cleaned out on a daily basis. The library book and homework folder "with baggie and reading slip and small school purchased books" should come back to school each day. It is the beautiful art work, papers done at school, and the Xerox books that need to be kept at home.

Friday, September 20 is our school's Homecoming. If your child would like, they may dress-up to celebrate this special week.

Monday, Sept. 16 - Pajama Day Tuesday, Sept. 17 - Rock- N- Roll Wednesday, Sept. 18 - Hawaiian Thursday, Sept. 19 - 80's Friday, Sept. 20 - Maroon and White

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