

Summer 2011

Dear Parents,

Congratulations! You are the proud parents of a soon to be 5<sup>th</sup> grader! It is going to be an exciting year full of wonderful learning experiences.

We have been teaching at the Albany School of Humanities for many years. Over the last several years we have discovered that many of our parents spend too much money and time purchasing the needed school supplies. For the last 8 years Mrs. McGraw has purchased the supplies for all the children during the summer and has had the students bring money on the first day of school. As a grade level, we did this last year and it worked wonderfully!

It is both time consuming and costly for us to do this over the summer. However, we know it has several strong benefits for the students and our class community. First, we can purchase the supplies in bulk. We can get the best deals in late June and early July therefore, saving a great deal of money.

The second reason we purchase all supplies is that we can transition from subject to subject quicker – increasing time on task and learning! Subject areas are color coded. Each child has exactly the same materials. We can quickly glance around the room at the start of a lesson and be sure that each child is using the right notebook and/or folder.

The third and final reason is comfort. By everyone having the same supplies – very little theft or conflict occurs. No one has the fancy pencil or special trinket. Envy or jealousy for something someone else has is eliminated. There are communal crayons, pencils, colored pencils. There are no arguments about whose eraser is this – or those are my scissors. Everything is labeled and the classroom is more like a home – we share.

Therefore, sit back and relax. No need to rush around wasting your expensive gas trying to find the exact blue notebook or green folder. On the first day of school, simply send in \$26.00 in cash with your child. A detailed supply list will be sent home so that you know exactly what your \$26.00 purchased. We can guarantee that you will be impressed with our bargain shopping abilities!

Enjoy the last days of summer and we look forward to meeting you and your child in September!

Sincerely,

**Ash 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Team**

Mrs. Antonio

Mrs. Kaleta

Mrs. McGraw

Ms. Foley