

Student's Name: _____

Date: _____

Family Letter to Students in 4JM – Sept 17, 2018

Dear Parents/Caregivers,

We are looking forward to an exciting year in Science and other subjects!

In the Yukon Science curriculum, children are expected to develop place-based knowledge and experiences about their local natural environment. This means getting outside!

I am asking for your support in having your child come to school dressed to spend time outdoors. Students will enjoy place-based outdoor learning more if they are wearing clothes and footwear that keep them warm and dry. Students need to be dressed for the weather every day, so it is possible to take them out on spontaneous outdoor activities on or near the school grounds. Please have your child prepare by storing a few extra clothing items in their locker at school, just in case our class spontaneously goes outside.

For class activities outside of the school grounds, I will be following school and district policies concerning activities off school property. In some cases, where field trips are considered more complex, you can expect to receive additional notification and a request for you to sign a permission form. However, if the outdoor learning experience is within walking distance of ESES, then your permission is covered by the General Fieldtrip Form (yellow sheet) that was signed at the beginning of the year, as per the school's policy.

Soon our class will be going on a berry-picking field trip. For this activity, students will be off school grounds but within walking distance of the school near the Kwanlin Coyote Ski-club building. Students may want to bring a small container with a lid for collecting berries. The berries will be used in a class cooking activity.

Please ensure your child is ready every day to go outside and learn! Place-based outdoor learning promotes a relationship with the natural environment and constructs in-depth environmental knowledge and understanding of the world. Don't forget to ask your child about their outdoor experiences!

Thank you for your support in having your child properly dressed for learning outside.

Sincerely, Ms. MacArthur (Grade 4 Teacher) and Ms. Whiteway (EA)

PS: Please remember that extra clothing layers, along with an extra pair of mitts or gloves and a hat can be kept in your child's locker, so they are always ready to go outside for learning.