

TEAM KATAHDIN

Hello Team Katahdin!

We hope this letter finds you having a wonderful summer and getting a chance to spend some fun times with family and friends. COVID definitely changed the World last year but we made the best of it and we couldn't be prouder of our district students and how they persevered! As you start to

prepare for the new school year and shop for school supplies, we wanted to provide a list of things you will need.

1" 3-ring binder(For Math only)
1 pkg. 5 tab dividers(For Math)
1 Inexpensive calculator(Dollar Tree)Recommended
1" binder for ELA
Lined paper
Colored pencils
Pens, Pencils and cap erasers
An Additional 1" binder for other classes
1 single subject Notebook for ELA



*Headphones or earbuds will help your students do assignments or review video assignments during class work time. We will not be able to loan or allow students to share headphones, because of the CDC guidelines.



Note about Supplies

We will be asking students to keep track of their own supplies as much as possible. Students will have a place to keep all of their own supplies: either in their own backpack, pencil case, a three-ring pencil pocket etc.

Students will NOT be allowed to share supplies at this time.

A Message from the Katahdin Team Teachers/What we've been up to:

Summer News from Mr. A

Dear Katahdin Students,

I hope you're having a great summer vacation! I am very excited to see everyone this fall, and to meet our new 6th graders!

Here's how I spent my time away from school this summer...

First I traveled to Ecuador, in South America, to climb three big mountains, all over 19,000 feet! I'm spending 3 weeks there, a long time away from home. It's the second time I've been to Ecuador, and it is a very beautiful country! I promise to share pictures with you this fall.

When I return home I have only 1 week to rest before taking some friends on an Allagash Wilderness Waterway canoe trip! I've guided canoe trips on the river for 24 years, and it's always fun to do a summer trip there, especially with friends.

In August I'm climbing Katahdin. It will be my 25th summit of Maine's highest mountain. It's a 5 night backpacking trip, and after the initial climb, I will climb over the mountain the next day to go into the backcountry for 2 additional nights!

At this point I'll be pretty tired, so I'm going to go to Mexico (Cancun) for 8 days to rest before the new school year starts! The beach is always a great time and very relaxing for me, so I should feel rested and recharged by the end of summer!

When I meet you this fall I will be teaching you two different classes, Wilderness Survival & Economics. The Wilderness Survival class will cover several aspects of the outdoors, including different survival techniques, wilderness survival priorities (positive mental attitude, shelter building, fires, water, etc...), and how to read a topographic map. This unit includes many workshops outside, so we should be getting a lot of fresh air in the fall!

The Economics class is a lot more fun than it sounds. We will discuss and discover how economic concepts apply to individuals, households, businesses, the stock market, governments and societies. Give it a chance, you'll like it, especially the Stock Market game that we play! Maybe you'll get rich!

Ok, enough of my plans! I can't wait to hear about yours! We'll see you soon! Enjoy the rest of your summer!

Mr. Aspinall / Mr. A



Hello Katahdin Students and families: (A note from Ms. Jewett)

I hope your summer vacation is fabulous so far! What a strange school year we had~ I'm very much looking forward to a new year and to meeting the new 6th grade Katahdin students!

My plans for this summer are to relax at home with my two boys Ben and Spencer. My son Ben is going into 9th grade at Maranacook Community High School and my son Spencer will be in the 6th grade at Winthrop Middle School. We plan to relax and rejuvenate at the ocean and do some hikes this summer. I am hoping to learn how to play golf, as my boys really love the sport.

In my free time I enjoy reading and writing (which is good, since that is what I teach!), so I hope to get through the stack of books I've been piling up to read. I also like to go for walks and go to the gym. Yoga is my favorite form of exercise, and I start each one of my classes with a "Mindful Moment" where we close our eyes and focus on just our breath for a minute at the beginning of class. I find it a wonderful way to begin class, ground, and get ready for what comes next.

My favorite activity in the summer is kayaking- mostly in Maranacook Lake as I live on the other side of the lake from the school. I've been kayaking on Maranacook for over 20 years and just love the quiet in the coves. I love to take photos- mostly of lake life (animals like loons, eagles, turtles, etc) and up close photos of flowers. I have some of my photographs at the Art Walk Shop and Studio in Winthrop as I love to share my photos.



Here is my kitty Ziggy, and a photo of my boys on an adventure.



I just got back from a trip to the North Maine Woods and saw 5 moose while I was there. This guy walked right past camp and woke me up one morning.

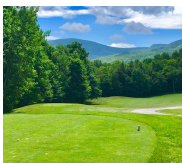
I'm looking forward to meeting you all in the fall! Enjoy your summer!!

-Ms. Jewett

Happy Summer Everyone!

I hope this note finds you all enjoying the beautiful Maine weather and getting a chance to recharge from a very hectic 20-21 school year!

So far this summer, My husband and I were able to have our daughter's wedding celebration (It was all we dreamed it would be). We have golfed 2-3 times per week at many different courses through New England. (I'm actually really improving) Last week we played at Sugarloaf the course was challenging and the scenery was just beautiful! We've visited family & friends (in our hometown/ Greenville) taking in the beautiful views and making connections we missed during COVID. We've spent many days & evenings on our boat (on Great Pond) - Summer is a beautiful time in the Belgrade region. We are so lucky to live in this beautiful part of the World.



For the past couple of years, school has been anything but normal -We all worked hard to persevere and get through a very challenging time. I am hoping we have turned the corner and will begin to see MCMS and life at school a bit more like we remember....

I am anxious for more group work, hands-on projects and exploring math with games, presentations, and shared learning...(Fingers crossed)we are moving in that direction.

During these last days of summer, I hope you are able to do things you enjoy and spend time with people you love- Recharge and get excited for a fun year filled with challenge, daily effort, fun and friends.



Things you might be wondering about....

What will the Schedule be like?

It looks like we will be getting back to a more "normal" schedule in the fall. YAY!
This schedule will include two lunch periods/activity time and we will continue to have a Black & Gold Day schedule. Black days will be Mondays & Thursdays, Gold days will be Tuesdays & Fridays and Wednesdays will rotate every other week. There will be four periods of class each day. You will be "on team" for the first 3 periods of the day, and have UA/World Languages during period 4 (the end of the day). We will have a tutorial time in the middle of the day(in Katahdin Team rooms)- this is also the time some students will have band or chorus.

On Katahdin Team-Our Theme for Trimester 1 is "Survival". Our core classes will be "Wilderness Survival" and "Surviving Economics", taught by Mr. Aspinall. Ms. Jewett will be teaching an English Language Arts Class and an Integrated class called "Survival Stories"(A narrative reading/writing workshop). All Katahdin Team Math classes will be taught by Mrs. Pelletier. We have all begun planning and look forward to seeing you all soon!

When can I get my laptop?

Please look for a message/email with information from Ms. Churchill coming soon!
7th and 8th graders may be able to pick up laptops by appointment the week before school starts. 6th graders will need to get information from Ms. Churchill first, and hopefully can have their laptop soon after school starts. Remember there is paperwork to fill out and an insurance fee to be paid to get your device! Her info will clarify changes(if any) from last year.

When does school actually start?

Wednesday, September 1st, will be the first day for 6th graders only. On the first day of school for sixth graders, you will be with your advisee group participating in activities, spending time at the middle school meeting people, and enjoying the day. You won't need your backpack or school supplies for this day. You can buy a lunch or bring a lunch and a water bottle. Dress to be outside and active for the day. We will be getting more information soon regarding mask wearing for the fall and whether that is required. The menu is available on the school's website if you want to think about ordering lunch.

Thursday, September 2nd, is the first day for all students and this will be the first day you have classes. Once you get here, we will help you figure out where your classes are and how different color days work.

If this all seems confusing, do NOT worry. As always, we will help you understand once you get here. Every day begins and ends with your advisee group, so you have lots of support from your advisor as well as Katahdin Team Teachers.

Where can I get information?

Dr. Levesque(the principal) sends weekly newsletters with MCMS news & school wide updates and we will be sending monthly team specific newsletters as well. Look for those with more information as the school year progresses.

You can find other information & resources on our Katahdin Team Website. To access it go to:

<https://www.maranacook.org/o/mcms/page/katahdin-team>

****Please take every chance to have fun and enjoy your last days of summer, it goes by too fast! We are looking forward to seeing you soon!**

If you have any questions during the year, please feel free to contact any of us by email.

Mr. Richard Aspinall (Core Teacher): Richard_Aspinall@maranacook.com

Ms. Katie Jewett (ELA Teacher): Katie_Jewett@maranacook.com

Mrs. Sherri Pelletier, Team Leader (MathTeacher): Sherri_Pelletier@maranacook.com