

# TEAM KATAHDIN

Hello Team Katahdin!

We hope this letter finds you all well and having a nice summer! COVID has definitely changed life as we know it in many ways but we hope you have been enjoying the weather and the time with your families. As you start to prepare for the new school year and shop, we wanted to make sure to share with you a few things we need to have you bring to school with you.

Here is a list to help you:

- A Mask(to be worn in all classrooms)
- A personal water bottle(no sharing will be allowed)
- 1" 3-ringed binder for Math only
- 1 pkg. (5 pack tab dividers) for Math
- An inexpensive calculator for Math
- An additional 1" binder for other classes
- Pens, Pencils, and cap erasers
- 1 single subject Notebook for ELA
- Inexpensive ear buds or head phones (no sharing)
- (Optional) A Planner to keep track of HW
- If you have class with Mrs. Holland(she requests quart sized ziploc bags)



We have been asked to have paperless classes as much as possible. 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 due to CDC guidelines.



## **Messages from the Teachers:**

**From Mr. Aspinall:**

Hello everyone! This is Mr. Aspinall, I will be teaching the Science and Social Studies classes on Team Katahdin. This first quarter we will be learning about Rocks & Minerals, as well as Geologic Time here on Earth! Earth Science can be fascinating, and I'll do my very best to make it interesting!

As some of you already know, my classes are challenging, but I always promise to do my best to make it as fun and meaningful as possible. It is very important to me that while you are at MCMS you gain a great deal of knowledge about Science and Social Studies, but more importantly, that you leave here to go to the high school with a good work ethic, that you become a critical thinker, and become the best person you can be.

I can't believe it, but this will be my 18th year in education. Wow, that's a lot of school! I love it though, especially working at Maranacook, where I've been teaching for 9 years. I have really missed seeing all of you kids and my teacher friends these last 6 months. I'm ready to get back to work!

See you very soon,  
Mr. A

**Hello Team Katahdin!**

I hope you've had a good summer and are looking forward to coming back to school soon. I've been very busy this summer-- I bought a new house in February, so once the snow melted I realized I had a lot of yard work to do! In addition to that, I've spent lots of time taking photographs, kayaking on Maranacook Lake, reading, journaling, and spending time with my sons. I'm looking forward to school starting soon, and although things will be different than usual, I'm sure we'll make the best of it!

In my ELA class at the beginning of the year, we'll be focusing on narrative reading and writing. We will be writing narrative stories using BIOMES as the setting (which is why my class is called Biome Stories). You'll be learning all about biomes in Mr. A's science class. I'm excited for this!

Look forward to seeing you all soon.

Ms. Jewett

Hi everyone,

Well COVID did its best to mess up our summer plans, but my daughter and my (now son-in-law) still got married after they graduated from Medical School (Via Zoom) in May! It was not the giant celebration we had planned but it was still wonderful. Next summer will be even more special when we renew their vows for the celebration we

planned for. I hope you were able to spend some special times with your family, even if it wasn't what you "initially planned". We WILL persevere! I am looking forward to the plans we have in place to allow school to begin in a few short weeks! Enjoy these last few pieces of summer and prepare for a challenging and fun year ahead!

Its hard to believe, this is my 30th year teaching(my 21st at MCMS)! I will be teaching Math to all grade levels on the Katahdin Team and am looking forward to the smaller class size(around 10) which will allow us to really get to know each other and focus on becoming better math students! I look forward to seeing you all soon!

All the best, Mrs. Pelletier

A fun message from the UA and FL Team(who are joining Team Katahdin for Quarter #1):

Mr. Watson and Mr. Scarpone want to welcome you to another awesome year at MCMS. After wrapping up their bungee jumping excursion in New Zealand and Australia, they spent the month of August competitively skydiving in Colorado. Mr. Watson finished training for a dog-sledding race competition in Quebec, however, Mr. Scarpone could not join in the adventure because he was busy performing a one-man interpretation of 'Hamilton' on Broadway. They are both so thoroughly excited to be part of the Katahdin team and want to thank you for welcoming them into your family.

\*\* Translation

\*\* Mr. Watson and Mr. Scarpone participated in no such adventures. Mr. Scarpone performed for zero people on Broadway but felt like the top of the world. That being said, they did eat ice cream all summer and received many kisses from their dogs. They are both so thoroughly excited to be part of the Katahdin team and want to thank you for welcoming them into your family.

## Things you might be wondering about....

**What will the Schedule be like?**

You will be going to classes with the same small group of students every day. We will still have a Black & Gold schedule. Black days will be Mondays & Thursdays, Gold would be Tuesdays & Fridays. There will be three periods of classes each day. One of the color days, you will be on team and the other you will attend Unified Arts, World Language or a different specialty pullout class. Pullouts include: Special Education classes, RTI Classes in ELA or Math, GT classes, or a study hall. Wednesdays, you will be working on your school work from home.

## What is the year going to be like due to COVID?

The school year will be divided into quarters. Our theme, to begin the year, is Dynamic Earth (Biomes, Rocks and Minerals, and Geologic Time) which will be integrated into all of your team classes. When on team, you will have math, ELA and your core class. For the first quarter on Katahdin, you will all have Music and French in addition to your assigned pullout class on your off-team day.

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. If you get to school between 8:00 am - 8:30 am each day you will also have tutorial time in the morning with your advisee group.

## When can I get my laptop?

Please look for a text and email with information from Ms. Churchill coming soon! 7th and 8th graders will 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 laptops soon after school starts. Remember there is paperwork to fill out and an insurance fee to be paid to get your device!

## When does school actually start?

Tuesday, September 8, 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, and be sure to wear a mask which covers your mouth and nose. The menu is available on the school's website if you want to think about ordering lunch.

Wednesday, September 9th, 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.

As you have learned from Dr. Levesque, things are going to be very different this year and we will do our best to create a fun and engaging learning experience for you all :) We will be focused on keeping you safe and helping you learn!

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

We hope you had a great summer and are excited to be at MCMS in the fall. If you have any questions please feel free to contact any of us by email.

We are looking forward to seeing you soon. We missed you and look forward to meeting our new students!

Mr. Richard Aspinall (Core Teacher): [Richard\\_Aspinall@maranacook.com](mailto:Richard_Aspinall@maranacook.com)

Ms. Katie Jewett (ELA Teacher): [Katie\\_Jewett@maranacook.com](mailto:Katie_Jewett@maranacook.com)

Mrs. Sherri Pelletier, Team Leader (MathTeacher) [Sherri\\_Pelletier@maranacook.com](mailto:Sherri_Pelletier@maranacook.com)