

Welcome to 4th Grade

You should have recently received a letter informing you that you are in MY class for 4th Grade! Woo hoo!! I hope this letter finds you all enjoying the summer days of August! We have had some beautiful weather and some strange storms, too! We're less than a couple of weeks away from a new school year beginning. I have so much fun planning and decorating our room so I really enjoy this time of the year. I like things to be organized, inviting, and fun for you! I am really getting excited about this new year! I'm looking forward to working with you!

I want to tell you a little bit about myself so that you can begin to get to know me. If I've done the math correctly, this is my 34th year of teaching--most of those have been in 4th grade. I am originally from California, but I've lived and taught in Maine since 1990. This is where I was always meant to be, and this is definitely home!



I live in Wells with Slugger, my 13 year old yellow lab. I have great friends and family all around me. Slugger is a great walking partner, and he keeps me on my toes for sure :-) He goes to York Bark and Play once a week to play with his furry friends. He loves it! You'll definitely be hearing about my dog adventures very soon!

I have had a wonderful summer! I've spent a lot of time on the beach and have spent great quality time with my family. My parents visited me for most of July! We had such a great time laughing, eating, and mostly hanging out at Ogunquit Beach! Most recently I spent a week with childhood friends from California. We ate tons of seafood and spent even more time of the beach. We had a blast!

My brother, sister-in-law, and my niece, Sarah, have been very busy, too. They spent two weeks in Norway where Sarah earned 5 medals in the IWWF World Disabled

Waterski Championships. She has Spina Bifida, waterskis and plays collegiate wheelchair basketball. She is about to start her sophomore year at Auburn University in Alabama. We missed having them here this summer, but are so very proud of Sarah's accomplishments! So in addition to having family and friends visit, I've also been reading a lot! I love books that I can't stand to put down. I've read over 6 already, and many were kid books. They are my new favorites! I also love to write! While my family was here I sort of journaled our time together on Facebook. It's a neat way to keep our memories alive! Reading and writing can be so fun!

I'm looking forward to helping you all to be your best selves. One of my favorite sayings is "Let your sparkle shine." We all are very special in our own ways, and my goal is to help you all be shining stars in our classroom! I'm excited for our new year to begin, but it's always sad to see summer coming to a close. I hope you are enjoying your vacation and have been doing all sorts of fun things. I can't wait to hear about the places you have gone and the things you have been doing. We will be getting to know each other very soon, and I can't wait! Enjoy the last days of summer!

Sincerely, Miss Beth Switzer :-)

## Some Important Stuff to Share With You

Meet and Greet

I will be working in our room on Monday August 26th, between 2:30-4:00 P.M., and I would love to show you around and say "hi". So stop in anytime during that time if you can! This is just an informal chance to meet each other. Don't worry if you can't make it. We will all get to know each other soon enough.

## Class Webpage/E-Mail

Check out our class webpage when you have a chance. I'll be updating it really soon. Be sure to always check with your parents before going online.

missswitzersclass.weebly.com/

Whenever possible I like to use email to keep in touch or a parent communication like Bloomz or Classtag. If you could send me the e-mail address you would like me to use to contact you, that would be great!

bswitzer@yorkschools.org

## School Supplies

Just a reminder of supplies that I would like each student to bring in:

Extra pencils/erasers/glue sticks

✓ 2 Binders--1 should be 3 inches wide. The 2nd one should be wide enough to hold your 4th grade plan book, etc. (1-1.5 inches is fine)
✓ 50 (at least) sheet protectors (the cheaper ones are perfect)

 $\checkmark$  1 package of tabbed index dividers, a set of 5 or 8 would be great

Pencils, scissors, rulers, glue, crayons, colored pencils, & a pencil box will be provided.

## For Parents

A questionnaire for YOU is included. Please return it at our Meet and Greet or during the first week or so of school. You could email it back, too, if you want. I truly welcome your insights as I get to know your children.

Are You Ready?

Have you been reading, writing, or practicing your math facts? If you haven't, it's not too late to get back into the swing of school work!

You will also want to start going to bed earlier as the end of August approaches. That way you will be ready when it's time for school to begin. I will need to do that, too :-)



Monday, Aug. 26th Meet and Greet 2:30-4 P.M.

Wednesday, Aug. 28th First Day of School