

Dear Families,

As beginning readers and writers, we're recognizing the everyday reasons people write. At school we're learning, practicing, and using this kind of short, practical writing. You can help us!

Everyday notes, lists, and the short correspondence that we take for granted can provide terrific learning opportunities for young writers. Will you think together and look for examples of any such writing at home to share with your child? You probably have ideas we haven't thought of. If possible, please send some examples to school. We'll read them together, use them as models, and add to our collection of everyday writing. Let us know if you want these pieces of writing returned, and we'll copy them and return the original to you right away. And of course, we always love to receive notes from you telling us what you think of our activities, books, and projects that come home.

Examples

Short everyday notes:

- When I think I might forget something, I write myself a reminder note, often a sticky note on my desk
- When I answer a phone call that's for someone else, I write a note with the message
- I write short notes on the calendar to remind me of birthdays or up-coming events
- Sometimes I leave a note on the refrigerator for my husband.

Lists:

- Grocery lists
- Other shopping lists
- Gift lists for holidays and birthdays
- Planning lists for things I hope to get done
- Books I want to read
- Movies I want to see.

Short correspondence:

- Cards to friends to keep in touch
- Thank you notes
- Get well cards
- Condolences.

Many thanks for your continuing support,