September 14, 2005

Dear Parent/Guardian,

As your students fifth grade teacher, I would like to inform you of an exciting unit plan your student will participate in during the next three weeks. The topic we will be focusing on during our unit is mammals. Even though the unit is focusing on mammals, I will still be covering the Academic Standards, which I am responsible in teaching your students. These standards are still focusing on Math, Reading, Writing, Science, Social Studies, Music, and Art. The standards we will be focusing on are as follows:

**Math**-5.2.1 Solve problems involving multiplication and division of any whole numbers.
**Math**-5.7.1 Analyze problems by identifying relationships, telling relevant from irrelevant information, sequencing and prioritizing information, and observing patterns.
**Math**-5.2.2 Add and subtract fractions (including mixed numbers) with different denominators.
**Science**-5.4.4 Explain that in any particular environment, some kinds of plants and animals survive well, some do not survive as well, and some cannot survive at all.
**Social Studies**-5.3.2 Name and locate states, major cities, major regions, major rivers, and mountain ranges in the United States.
**English Language Arts**-5.1.1 Read aloud grade-level-appropriate narrative text (stories) and expository text (information) fluently and accurately and with appropriate timing, changes in voice, and expression.
**English Language Arts**-5.7.6 Use volume, phrasing, timing, and gestures appropriately to enhance meaning.
**English Language Arts**-5.5.1 Write narratives (stories) that establish a plot, point of view, setting, and conflict. show, rather than tell, the events of the story.
**English Language Arts**-5.4.6 Create simple documents using a computer and employing organizational features, such as passwords, entry and pull-down menus, word searches, the thesaurus, and spell checks.
**Music**-5.1.3 Sing a round with appropriate dynamics, phrasing and interpretations. Maintain an independent part and keep a steady beat.
**Art**-5.9.3 Demonstrate safe and proper use, care, and storage of media, materials, and equipment.
**Art**-5.8.1 Apply elements (line, shape, form, texture, color, value and space) and principles (repetition, variety, rhythm, proportion, movement, balance, emphasis, and unity) in work that effectively communicates their ideas.

As we focus on and learn these standards the students will be completing some exciting and fun learning activities. These activities include, cooking, making puppets, exploring a specific mammal, and participating in a play, just to name a few. I am very excited to offer your students this unit because I feel it will be an amazing learning experience for your child. If you have any questions or concerns on this unit, please contact me at kabrandon@manchester.edu or the school phone at (260)982-5000.

Sincerely,

Miss Brandon

5th grade teacher