HELLO TO ALL OF OUR BEAR CUB/PANDA BEAR FAMILIES,

THIS SCHOOL YEAR WILL LOOK A LITTLE DIFFERENT—BUT WE KNOW THERE WILL BE PLENTY OF SMILES UNDERNEATH BEAR CUBS’ AND PANDA BEARS’ MASKS, AND UNDER MS. MARSHA’S, MS. COLLEEN’S AND MS. CHONA’S MASKS, TOO!

BY NOW, YOU HAVE RECEIVED WUNS’ RETURN TO SCHOOL PLAN, WHICH DETAILS DAILY SCREENING PROCEDURES AND DROP OFF/PICKUP INSTRUCTIONS. PLEASE ALSO READ THE PARENT HANDBOOK THOROUGHLY. THIS LETTER WILL FILL YOU IN ON OTHER INFORMATION THAT WILL HELP TRANSITION YOUR BEAR CUB/PANDA BEAR FOR THE SCHOOL YEAR AHEAD.

WHAT TO BRING THE FIRST DAY

• A BACKPACK WITH HIS/HER NAME WRITTEN VISIBLY ON THE OUTSIDE. WONDERING ABOUT SIZE? LARGE ENOUGH TO HOLD ARTWORK THAT WILL COME HOME THROUGHOUT THE YEAR, BUT SMALL ENOUGH FOR YOUR BEAR CUB/PANDA BEAR TO READILY PUT ON BY HIMSELF/HERSELF. CONSIDER A BACKPACK THAT IS EASILY WASHABLE OR WIPED DOWN.

• TWO SETS OF ADDITIONAL CLOTHING (ALL LABELED WITH CHILD’S NAME), INCLUDING TOP, BOTTOM, SOCKS AND UNDERWEAR (EACH CHILD HAS A PLASTIC TUB IN HIS/HER CUBBY WHERE THESE EXTRA CLOTHES ARE STORED). CHILDREN NEED TO WEAR PLAY CLOTHES THAT ARE COMFORTABLE AND ALLOW FOR FREEDOM OF MOVEMENT, WITH APPROPRIATE FOOTWEAR FOR RUNNING, CLIMBING, PLAYING IN SAND AND ON PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT.

• WATER BOTTLE (LABELED WITH CHILD’S NAME) WHICH WE WILL USE THROUGHOUT THE DAY RATHER THAN THE DRINKING FOUNTAIN OR CUPS AT SCHOOL. BEAR CUBS/PANDA BEARS WILL STORE THEIR WATER BOTTLES IN THEIR CUBBIES. WE WILL SEND THESE HOME EVERY DAY FOR CLEANING AND REFILLING.
WHAT HAPPENS DURING THE DAY

NOTE: WE WILL BE WASHING HANDS MULTIPLE TIMES THROUGHOUT THE DAY—SEE THE RETURN TO SCHOOL PLAN FOR DETAILS.

• OUR GOAL IS THAT EACH DAY WE WILL PLAY OUTSIDE, HAVE A SNACK, ENJOY FREE CHOICE PLAYTIME IN THE CLASSROOM AND ON THE PATIO, AND SETTLE INTO STORYTIME. WE WILL SHARE MORE SPECIFICS ABOUT THE DAILY SCHEDULE AFTER WE ADJUST TO THE FIRST FEW WEEKS.

• SNACK: EACH DAY WE SERVE A HEALTHY SNACK MIDMORNING, WHICH INCLUDES FRESH OR DRIED FRUIT AND A TYPE OF CRACKER (GOLDFISH, RITZ, GRAHAM, FOR EXAMPLE).

• IF YOUR CHILD IS STAYING FOR THE AFTERNOON PANDA BEAR CLASS, PLEASE SEND YOUR BEAR CUB/PANDA BEAR WITH A LUNCH (PLEASE LABEL THE CONTAINER WITH CHILD’S NAME) THAT DOES NOT NEED REFRIGERATION OR ANY FOOD MICROWAVED. LUNCH BAGS/BOXES WILL STAY IN THE CHILD’S CUBBY.

HOME/SCHOOL COMMUNICATIONS

• OUR WEBSITE AND SEESAW ARE TWO SOURCES THAT CAN ANSWER YOUR “WHAT DID YOU DO TODAY AT SCHOOL?” QUESTIONS. WE ARE CURRENTLY SETTING UP SEESAW AND WILL LET YOU KNOW IN A FUTURE EMAIL HOW IT WORKS.

• CELEBRATIONS: BEAR CUBS AND PANDA BEARS LOVE CELEBRATING THEIR BIRTHDAYS OR HALF-BIRTHDAYS. CHILDREN ARE WELCOME TO BRING A STORE-BOUGHT, NUT-FREE SNACK ON OR NEAR THEIR SPECIAL DAY. PLEASE DROP THE SNACK OFF AT MORNING CARPOOL. WE WILL CAPTURE THE CLASS SINGING A BIRTHDAY SONG IN A SHORT VIDEO AND/OR PHOTO TO SEND TO YOU.

• MS. MARSHA & MS. COLLEEN ARE THE LEAD TEACHERS OF BEAR CUBS THIS YEAR, AND MS. ANDI IS THE TEACHING ASSISTANT. MS. MARSHA & MS. CHONA ARE THE LEAD TEACHERS FOR THE PANDA BEAR CLASS. THE BEST WAY TO REACH THE LEAD TEACHERS IS VIA EMAIL. (MS. MARSHA: KGRAEBER1@AOL.COM; MS. COLLEEN: CCORBETT@WUSTL.EDU; MS. CHONA: CHONACARSON@YAHOO.COM)

THANK YOU FOR SHARING YOUR V.I.B. (VERY IMPORTANT BEAR) WITH US THIS YEAR. WE CAN’T WAIT TO START!

LOVE, MS. MARSHA, MS. COLLEEN, MS. CHONA & MS. ANDI