Dear Parents,
We are off to a gold medal start in our classroom. Students have chosen their gold medal, or Level 4 goals for this term and are already working hard to achieve them. We are delighted to have such a well prepared and enthusiastic bunch of eager learners this year. We will be calling home in the next week or so to see how everyone is settling in and to communicate homework expectations and to address any other questions or concerns you might have.

**Literacy**
We are already reading in our guided reading groups. Our names are the Eager Eagles, Helpful Hummingbirds, Sassy Blue Jays, the Reading Robins. Students are currently writing a paragraph about their summer vacation using a graphic organizer. Please remember to read aloud with your child every evening and record their completed books in their reading logs. This is the best way to improve their fluency and word decoding skills. Practice, practice, and more practice.

**Numeracy**
We have begun to build and extend patterns with tiles, pattern blocks, and numbers. Please notice patterns at home with your child in wallpaper, clothing, or furniture. Have them talk to you about the pattern core and the attributes they use to describe a pattern.

**Science**
We are beginning our unit on Animal and Plant Characteristics. On Friday we went outside and identified as many plants and animals that we could find in the school yard and talked about some of their characteristics.

**Physical Education**
We are playing games in the gym during these hot days. One is called Mercy. It is a tag game with meanness catching mercy. We also played crazy cook with two pool noodles. We sure have lots of crazy cooks in Grades 2 and 3.

Here are the students top 4 rules for a successful school year:

- **O**ur class needs to be quiet so we can listen to instructions.
- **W**e need to be kind and helpful.
- **L**earn to ask for help and expect rewards and praise for good work.
- **S**tudents need to focus, be patient and work hard.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Shulist
Ms. Prince