

Dear 5th Graders and Families,

Welcome to 5th grade! My name is Sue Whitney and I will be your teacher this year. For the past 26 years I have been teaching 6th grade in Lewiston and I am very happy to join Manchester Elementary School and be your teacher.

So, I imagine you have a few questions you'd like to ask me. Let's see if I can answer some of them. I grew up in a small town in Western Maine near Bethel. My father was a high school biology teacher, and yes, I had him as my teacher for 2 years. I went to college in Burlington, Vermont and then returned to Maine (home, sweet, home) and have been here ever since. I married my high school sweetheart 28 years ago and we live in a log house. We do not have any children, but we spend a lot of time with our niece and 6 nephews. I will tell you all about them when school starts.

I have already started moving into our classroom and setting things up for school to open. I am looking forward to sharing the many learning opportunities I have collected with you. One project we will work on immediately is creating personal time capsules. You will need an empty coffee can with a lid to use as your time capsule container. The rest of the project we will discuss on the first day of school. We will also be creating interactive notebooks. These notebooks will be a resource that you can use as you are learning new skills. You will write notes, define vocabulary, complete examples and attach an interactive foldable that we will create together. You will be allowed to add your own personal touches to your notebook as well.

Thank you for writing letters to me at the end of last year! I have read each one and enjoyed learning about you. Now I can't wait to meet you in person.

The following is a list of supplies you might like to have:

- Pencils
- Colored pencils (8 or 12)
- White board marker
- Dividers for a binder
- 2 composition style notebooks
- Pencil bag or box
- Empty coffee can with a lid for our time capsule project

If you are unable to get these supplies, just let me know and I will get you stocked up.

I look forward to seeing you and your family on Monday, August 27 from 5:30-6:00 at our Meet and Greet. Feel free to bring in your supplies at that time if you would like. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at [Sue\\_Whitney@maranacook.com](mailto:Sue_Whitney@maranacook.com) or call the office. I will get back to you at my earliest convenience.

Your teacher,  
Mrs. Whitney

---