Dear Parent/Guardian, September 6, 2016

Welcome back to another school year! My name is Shaneen Coes and I will be teaching grade ¾ this year. I am new to McAdam Avenue but I bring with me 17 years of experience teaching in small schools. I’m looking forward to becoming part of your community!

I have been teaching in New Brunswick for ten years and prior to that, I taught in Ontario and Manitoba. For the past six years I have been teaching middle/high school Literacy, but I also have experience teaching all subjects in both single and split-grade classrooms. Over the years, I have been lucky enough to teach students who bring a wide variety of abilities and skills to the classroom. Differentiating lessons/activities/homework so that all students are successful is something that is very important to me!

**What to expect this year at home:**

**Communication Book-** each day, look for a large envelope containing a communication book (homework, parent/teacher notes) and book orders/permission forms, that were given out that day.

**Homework-** will be kept to a minimum and will focus on reinforcing skills taught in the classroom. Projects and assignments will be completed at school.

**Typical nightly homework might include:**

* Reading- spend ten minutes reading aloud to yourself or someone else
* Word Work- spend five minutes studying from a weekly list of “No Excuse” words and challenge words
* Math- spend five to ten minutes to complete an activity (short worksheet, multiplication facts, journal entry, etc.)

**What to expect this year at school:**

**Literacy**-as part of a balanced Literacy program, students can expect:

**Weekly word work quizzes** based on “No Excuse” word list.

**Daily independent reading and conferences** with the teacher; focus on reading strategies and comprehension skills.

**Teacher-directed reading** that exposes students to a wide-range of text from a variety of genres.

**Daily writing practice and exploration**; focus on the 6+1 Write Traits and provincial writing standards for grades ¾.

**Numeracy-** exploring math concepts related to the four strands/provincial outcomes for each grade. Students can expect:

**Exposure to** exemplars, rubrics and models to help guide their understanding/ work.

**Opportunities to** use a variety of manipulatives; to complete activities both independently and in groups.

**A focus** on real-world application of math concepts whenever possible.

**Use** **of** games, journals, textbooks and teacher-lead activities to reinforce important skills.

**Social Sciences**- we will begin by studying concepts in social studies in a block of two months and then switch to science

**Health and Personal Development**- our first focus will be on self-esteem and identifying positive qualities in ourselves

**Visual Arts-** students will complete a variety of activities focused on the elements of art, starting with line and shape

If you have questions or concerns, please feel free to reach me by email at: [shaneen.coes@nbed.nb.ca](mailto:shaneen.coes@nbed.nb.ca). Please add your email address below if you wish.

Looking forward to a wonderful year here at MAS!

Shaneen Coes

Please sign, detach and return.

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Parent/Guardian Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Email Address:

Dear Parent/Guardian, September 6, 2016

Welcome back to another school year! My name is Shaneen Coes and I will be teaching grade five literacy this year. I am new to McAdam Avenue but I bring with me 17 years of experience teaching in small schools. I’m looking forward to becoming part of your community!

I have been teaching in New Brunswick for ten years and prior to that, I taught in Ontario and Manitoba. For the past six years I have been teaching middle/high school Literacy, but I also have experience teaching all subjects in both single and split-grade classrooms. Over the years, I have been lucky enough to teach students who bring a wide variety of abilities and skills to the classroom. Differentiating lessons/activities/homework so that all students are successful is something that is very important to me!

**What to expect this year at home:**

**Homework-** will be kept to a minimum and will focus on reinforcing skills taught in the classroom. Projects and assignments will be completed at school.

**Typical nightly homework might include:**

* Reading- spend ten minutes reading aloud to yourself or someone else
* Word Work- spend five minutes studying from a weekly list of “No Excuse” vocabulary (grade-appropriate frequently occurring words list) and challenge words

**What to expect this year at school:**

**Literacy**-as part of a balanced Literacy program, students can expect:

**Weekly word work quizzes** based on “No Excuse” word list and challenge words

**Daily independent reading and conferences** with the teacher; focus on reading strategies and comprehension skills.

**Teacher-directed reading** that exposes students to a wide-range of text from a variety of genres.

**Daily writing practice and exploration**; focus on the 6+1 Write Traits and provincial writing standards for grades ¾.

If you have questions or concerns, please feel free to reach me by email at: [shaneen.coes@nbed.nb.ca](mailto:shaneen.coes@nbed.nb.ca). Please add your email address below if you wish.

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Email Address:

**What is** [**www.remind.com**](http://www.remind.com) **and the remind app?**

Remind is a communication tool that helps teachers connect instantly with parents/guardians. Teachers are able to send quick, simple messages to any device via text or email. Everyone’s contact information stays private; teachers never see parents’ phone numbers and vice versa. Teachers and parents have easy access to reporting tools and a history of all messages and announcements can be downloaded at any time.

I use this communication tool to: send out class/school announcements; post daily homework; remind students to bring permission forms, book orders, etc.; provide missed work for students who are absent; post weekly word lists and upcoming test reminders; facilitate school-related communication between teacher, students and parents.

To view a short video that explains how remind can be used, check out this link: <https://www.remind.com/features>

To join remind, please follow the instructions below. Don’t have a mobile phone? Go to rmd.at/masgrade3 on a desktop computer to sign up for email notifications.





