Dear Students and Families,

Whether you are a returning or a first year Blue Crab, we want to officially welcome you to the East Lyme Middle School Blue Crab Team. We are already looking forward to being immersed in a kiva with seventh and eighth graders exchanging ideas and traditions while supporting one another.

As teachers, we are so pleased to be on the Blue Crabs! We are looking forward to an exciting 2017-2018 learning adventure spirited by 7th and 8th grade enthusiasm, humor, and inquisitiveness.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Behbehani, Ms. Boucher, Ms. Callaghan, Ms. D’Anna, Mrs. Jeff

---

A Few Dates for the Calendar

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| August 30, Wednesday      | First day of school :|)
| September 4, Monday       | Labor Day - No School                         |
| September 5, Tuesday      | Professional Development (No School for Students) |
| September 6, Wednesday    | PTA Magazine Drive Assembly                    |
| September 21 & 22, Thursday & Friday | Picture Day                                  |
| September 27, Wednesday   | Back To School Night (Grades 7 & 8)           |
| October 6, Friday         | Professional Development (No School for Students) |
| October 9, Monday         | Columbus Day - No School                      |
| October 25, Wednesday     | Taste of The Arts                             |
| November 1, Wednesday     | Picture Make-up / Re-Take Day                  |

---

**ELMS Summer Reading Challenge!**

Required: Two fiction books from the list* and two non-fiction books of your choice.

The list* can be found at: www.eastlymeschools.org, Media Center, Summer Reading 2017 tab.

A pizza party will be awarded to the kiva that reads the most books! Hopefully, it will be us. Please make a list of all of the books you read and bring it to your Language Arts teacher on the first day.

---

The Blue Crabs Kiva is “nut free”

No nut products may be eaten in the kiva.
Parental involvement in your child's education can mean:

- Reading to your child, or partner-reading with your child
- Checking homework every night
- Discussing your child's academic progress
- Voting in school board elections
- Limiting "screen time" (TV, e-games, social networking, etc.) on school nights
- Becoming an advocate for strong education in our community and state.

Or, it can be as simple as asking your child, "What did you do in school today?" But ask every day. That will send your child the clear message that his/her schoolwork is important to you and you expect them to learn.

Some parents and families are able to be involved in their child's education in many ways. If your child sees you involved, he/she will think there is value in learning.

This material was adapted from the National Education Association www.nea.org/parents/research-parents.html