



June 2023

Dear Primary and Families,

We are so happy that you will be in the Arbor Primary this fall. This year we will be studying journeys of all kinds and we can't wait to set sail.

The summer is an important time for you to play, to get lots of fresh air, to have relaxed times with your family and with your friends. But because it is such a long time, we would like to ask you to do three things to stay ready for school next year.

The first and second assignments have to do with a mouse . . .

This summer, a mouse and a blank postcard will come to you in the mail from Arbor. Now, this mouse will surely be a very adventurous mouse. We'd like you to **write and illustrate a postcard**, telling us about your summer adventures with your mouse. This could be a trip you take with your family or some fun you had in your own backyard. Remember that for a tiny mouse, it is a big adventure to go to the grocery store with you, or watch you in a swimming lesson. Please mail the postcard back to Arbor when you're through.

Since we will be studying journeys next year, we would also like you to **design and create a boat or water vessel** for your mouse to travel in. Please use objects that you find around your house and yard. Please bring your vessel and mouse on the first day of school to share with your classmates. Since you will need to bring your vessel to class, make sure you can carry it yourself.

The third assignment is this: please be sure that someone reads to you or that you **read** to yourself every day.

We look forward to your mouse tales and water vessels. Class lists indicating placement will be sent out at the end of June. And we look forward to seeing all who can attend our class gatherings at Arbor School later in the summer. Primary Nest will meet on Wednesday, August 30 from 6—8pm. Primary Den will meet the following evening, Thursday, August 31, at the same time and place.

Warmly,  
The Primary Team,  
Nadia, Tori, Owen, and Alexis

P.S. To find out about the adventures of other mice, you might want to read *The House that Mouse Built* and *I Wish I Had a Pet!* by Maggie Rudy (an Arbor alumnus parent); *Stuart Little* by E.B. White; books by Kevin Henkes, Leo Lionni, William Steig, Jan Brett, and Arnold Lobel. There are many more, too!