**Dear 6 Harkrader Class of 2022/2023,** 

I am delighted to be your sixth teacher this year and eagerly await seeing you soon! We are going to have a fantastic year together! Your sixth grade will be filled with lots of learning and growing. I cannot wait to meet each and every one of you and learn more about you. I have been thinking and planning the start of the school year and am excited for that first week of school.

 I am so proud to be teaching sixth grade at Butler. I love teaching and learning new things and I am eager to learn more about you. I graduated from Shippensburg University and have been teaching now for 27 years. I have three children, two of which are off to college later in this month. My children keep me running in many directions with all of their activities. In my free time, I enjoy exploring the outdoors, swimming, camping and spending time with my family. This summer I traveled to San Francisco, California to watch my son Colin play in a water polo tournament. I am also enthusiastically awaiting my family vacation to Ocean City, NJ next week.

I hope you have had a wonderful summer and enjoyed every minute of it with your family and friends. I look forward to you sharing your summer memories with your new classmates and me next week. Your 6th grade year is going to be great. The 6th grade teachers and I have been planning many exciting activities and learning opportunities. Each day will be filled with new experiences, challenges and growth. Promise me that you will come to school with an open-mind, a positive attitude and a willingness to try new things. I am so eager to hear your ideas as we build our classroom community together.

I have another link on my teacher page that has the materials that you will need for my classroom. I appreciate your efforts in organizing your school materials for the beginning of the school year. Please let me know if there is anything I can do prior to the start of school. Enjoy the remainder of your summer break and I will see you soon!

**Mr. Harkrader**

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