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The Cluttered Desk

Volume 3 Issue 3

"He who dares to teach must never cease to learn." – Anonymous

Welcome to “**The Cluttered Desk**”, the semi-monthly newsletter of Just Us Teachers. You are receiving this newsletter because you have requested a subscription. If you have received this e-mail in error or would like to discontinue your subscription, please see the instructions at the end of this newsletter.

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Welcome to the Back-To-School issue of “The Cluttered Desk”! And a special “Howdy” to all of our new subscribers from this year’s CAMT Convention in Dallas, Texas. In past issues, we have always featured research links to sites important to math education. For this issue, however, we are providing links to sites to assist you as you help your children cope with the catastrophic effects of Hurricane Katrina. We realize that many of you have loved ones that have been impacted by this storm, and a great number of you will soon be receiving displaced families into your communities, and their children into your classrooms. Our thoughts and prayers go out to them as victims of this tragedy, and also to you as you take part in their healing.

----- SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

#1 We are building a new page for our website that will contain documents created with 1, 2, 3 Math Fonts, and

#2 If you own a previous version of 1, 2, 3 Math Fonts, you are eligible to receive the new version with 33 fonts for **FREE!**

Details can be found at the end of this e-zine

----- RESEARCH LINKS – HURRICANE KATRINA

Helping Kids Cope With Katrina

<http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/9173762>

Getting Kids to Cope With Emotions of Hurricane Katrina Can Be Difficult

<http://www.woodtv.com/global/story.asp?s=3802226>

Helping Children and Adolescents Cope with Violence and Disasters

<http://www.nimh.nih.gov/publicat/violence.cfm>

Time For Kids – Special Report on Hurricane Katrina

<http://www.timeforkids.com/TFK/specials/articles/0,6709,1100402,00.html>

How Can I Help Students Affected by Hurricane Katrina? – Texas

<http://www.tea.state.tx.us/tea/hcane/howtohelp.html>

Louisiana Department of Education – Hurricane Katrina School Info

<http://www.louisianaschools.net/lde/index.html>

Facilitating Conversations With Youth

<http://www.mindohfoundation.org/hurricanekatrina.htm>

Katrina Relief Information – National Association of Elementary School Principals

<http://www.naesp.org/ContentLoad.do?contentId=1027#top>

FEATURE ARTICLE

The Hidden Rules of the Classroom

By Chris Slaughter

There are many things that a teacher needs to take care of at the beginning of the school year. Textbooks need to be checked out and covered, locker assignments need to be made, and most of all, your students need to be told “The Rules”. You know, how to get the teacher’s attention, procedures for lining up, etc.

But as you are getting to know your students, they are watching you for hints of your “Hidden Rules”, rules that are not written, but must be followed if they wish to be successful in your class. See if you recognize yourself in this list of... “The Hidden Rules of the Classroom”.

- 1) Do not talk to me until I finish my first cup of coffee.
- 2) Yes, I have favorites... they are the students who follow rule #1.
- 3) Quiet students get to go to the bathroom more than noisy ones.
- 4) Your lunchtime is MY lunchtime... don’t make me late!
- 5) Chocolate makes me nicer.
- 6) It is OK to make a mistake in class. It is not OK to make it in front of the principal.
- 7) Yes, I will bribe you on the day of my evaluation.
- 8) I know my desk is a mess, keep yours clean anyway.
- 9) I am not your mother. I am not your father. Call me “Grandma” and you fail.
- 10) Don’t tell your parents everything I do at school, and I won’t tell them everything YOU do at school.
- 11) If I am wearing sunglasses and holding my head, it is “Quiet Day”.
- 12) Please bring your toys to school. I like to have something to donate at Christmas.
- 13) Don’t tell me you can’t get along with your classmate, I am not Dr. Phil.
- 14) Test difficulty increases in direct proportion to the amount of Advil I take during the week.

15) If we have recess, it is because I need a "Time-Out".

Get your free math screensavers at <http://www.justusteachers.com/screensavers.html>. No pop-ups, no advertising, just fun screensavers!

BACK TO SCHOOL LINKS

A List of Reward Ideas

<http://www.canteach.ca/elementary/classman2.html>

Top 10 Classroom Organization Guide Picks

<http://fengshui.about.com/od/clutter/tp/classorganizing.htm>

Avoiding the Paper Trap

Easy ways to organize and manage students' papers and your own

<http://www.mspowell.com/otherwebpages/passingoutpapers.html>

Forms and Other Papers – Printable calendars, behavior charts, parent letters and more.

<http://www.busyteacherscafe.com/wspages/forms.htm>

"I'm Done, Now What?": A List of Things One Can Do After Seat Work

<http://www.canteach.ca/elementary/classman4.html>

See samples of 1,2,3 Math Fonts at <http://www.justusteachers.com/MathFontsSamples.pdf>
These are images that you just TYPE into your documents. NO CUTTING AND PASTING!

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS – CONTINUED

We are in the process of creating a page on our website, www.justusteachers.com, to feature documents created with 1, 2, 3 Math Fonts. The page will be subdivided by grade level and content strand. It will be open to public access, but only 1, 2, 3 Math Fonts users will be able to view the documents properly. Without the fonts loaded onto your computer, the documents will appear to contain gibberish.

We are asking for your help in creating this page. If you enjoy using 1, 2, 3 Math Fonts, and would like to contribute 1 or more documents, please do the following:

Send your document(s) to: mathfonts@justusteachers.com

- Send as an attachment.
- Indicate suggested grade level.
- If you would like to receive credit for your work, please place your information in your document.

With your assistance, we will soon have hundreds of content-specific documents that you can download, edit, print and use in your own classroom!

Do you already own 1, 2, 3 Math Fonts Version 1 or 2 and would like to get Version 3 WITHOUT having to pay the \$30? Well... YOU CAN!

Simply e-mail us a document that you have created with 1, 2, 3 Math Fonts for use in class, and in return, we will give you a 1 week access code to our download page! All of the new fonts are there, as well as the complete User's Manual. All documents sent will be added to the new page. This offer expires 9-30-05, so act quickly!

Past Issues of "The Cluttered Desk" can be viewed at
http://www.justusteachers.com/Ezine_Archives.html

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