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The Cluttered Desk

Volume 4 Issue 3

"A teacher is one who makes himself progressively unnecessary." Thomas Carruthers

Welcome to **"The Cluttered Desk"**, the semi-monthly newsletter of Just Us Teachers.

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FEATURE WEBSITE

Check out the Math Pages from “The Busy Teacher’s Café” at

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

This site has a lot of great basic math worksheets in .pdf format, including addition, subtraction, multiplication drills, time, money, word problems and more!

FEATURE ARTICLE

Letters from a New Teacher

By Chris Slaughter

August

Dear Mom,

I am so excited! I start my first day teaching tomorrow! I just know that my students and I are going to be the best of friends! And I can’t wait to meet all of their parents! I hope there are not too many volunteers, the classroom is kind of small. Well, if they all want to help out, we can just set up a rotating schedule.

It is going to be good to have a regular paycheck finally. Don’t worry, I won’t go out for dinner EVERY night. Still, it will be nice to be able to afford to go out every weekend.

I don’t think I am going to be able to sleep! I guess I’ll go make some cookies for my class...

Your loving daughter,

Trisha

October

Dear Mom,

Wow, I didn't expect to have so many students. 17 boys and 9 girls... Of course, I will NEVER buy into the stereotypes about gender differences. Boys and girls should be treated exactly the same. But my boys do seem to be a *little* more active. The teacher next door was talking to me about "ADD", but I don't believe in that. I mean, if they can pay attention to the computer games, they can pay attention to me.

I think most of my students misplaced their letters to their parents, as I only have one parent volunteer so far, and she can only come on Tuesdays... after 2:30... once a month.

Would you and Dad mind loaning me a little cash? I'm still a little short because of all of the unexpected deductions (taxes, insurance, etc.). I've stopped eating out, but I am just about out of groceries.

Your tired daughter,

Trisha

December

Mom!

These kids are driving me crazy! I have to repeat myself over and over again just to get them to do the simplest things! And I know I love all of my students, but George is making it really hard to actually LIKE him. And so is Tony... and Bill... and Amber. I am starting to think that there might be something to this "ADD" idea.

I am so glad that the Christmas break is almost here. I can finally catch up on my sleep, my reading and my soap operas.

Ummm, do you think you could float me another loan? Payday is still a week away, and I am almost out of bologna and cereal.

Your exhausted daughter,

Trisha

January

Well, so much for RESTING over the holiday. I had papers to grade, referrals to fill out, report cards to post and had to go up to the school to clean up my room from the Christmas party! Do you know how to get red punch stains out of carpet?

These kids! They don't listen! Not even a little! I say "sit down", they stand up. I say "line up", they run in circles. And the noise! My throat is sore from trying to talk over them! Not to

July

Dear Mom,

I sure do miss my kids... Maybe I'll try just ONE more year...

Your daughter,

Miss Ackerman
Teacher

Check out 1,2,3 Math Fonts at http://www.justusteachers.com/Math_Fonts.html
These are images that you just TYPE into your documents. NO CUTTING AND PASTING!
View the entire User's Manual at <http://www.justusteachers.com/123MathFontsManual.pdf>.

BACK TO SCHOOL LINKS

Fourteen Great Activities for the First Days of School!
http://www.educationworld.com/a_lesson/lesson/lesson074.shtml

Must-Do List – Before the First Day of School...
http://teacher.scholastic.com/professional/backtoschool/mustdolist_box.htm

Classroom Set-Up Tool
http://teacher.scholastic.com/tools/class_setup/

Microsoft Office Templates for Teachers
<http://office.microsoft.com/en-us/templates/CT062100801033.aspx>

First Day of School Lesson Plans
<http://www.lessonplanspage.com/BeginSchool.htm>

Back to School Activities
http://abcteach.com/directory/theme_units/month_to_month/h_august/back_to_school/

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

RESEARCH LINKS – THE ROLE OF THE TEACHER IN STUDENT SUCCESS

A Resource Teacher's Role in the Regular Classroom
<http://classweb.gmu.edu/cip/g/gc/gc-c019.htm>

The Teacher's Role in Developing Social Skills
<http://www.kidsource.com/LDA-CA/teacher.html>

Building Parent-Teacher Partnerships
<http://www.aft.org/teachers/jft/building.htm>

The Changing Role of the Teacher
<http://www.sedl.org/pubs/teaching99/welcome.html>

TEN ROLES FOR MATH TEACHERS
<http://www.learner.org/channel/workshops/math/10roles.html>

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

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