Truly this year has been the fastest on record, and the lack of many snow days is helping.

A great week last week - successful grade 3 field trip & Google Zoo; great band and strings concert, super senior breakfast, nerve-wracking move up day for grade 5, and for the parents of our new incoming kindergarteners - all starting off with a best-weather-ever day for Field Day on Monday.

Please take care of any outstanding lunch balances this week. They WILL be carried over to next year. Our food service is self-funded and outstanding bills have a significant impact.

REMEMBER: Boys and Girls Club is closed this week as they clean and transition to summer programming. PLEASE SEND IN A NOTE WITH PLANS IF YOUR CHILD USUALLY GOES THERE.

B&G VOUCHER - A parent donated a voucher for $100 towards a Salem Boys and Girls Club program. Please contact me if your family would use it.

STEP UP DAY - students met grade level teachers, who shared an artifact that represents something about who they are as a teacher and person. Ask your child if he/she remembers what any of the teachers brought to share. Why did they choose it? Only Mrs. Gray (grade 2) was unable to make it, and hopefully she will be in this week to say hello.

KOHL’s BACK TO SCHOOL CLOTHING CARD - PTA has made available a sum of money for families to use to purchase a back to school outfit for each of their North Salem children. If your family would welcome this assistance, please contact me. I will alert you when they may be picked up over the summer - generally around the end of July, beginning of August. I am asking now for planning purposes. jwilkins@sau57.org

Upcoming: Grade 4 field trip; Grade 5 Celebration; Grade 5 Moving On Ceremony; K end of year show; last day assembly, video, awards, goodbyes, Grade 5 Clap Out

Last day for Kindergarten is Thursday - dismissal time as usual.

Last day for 1-5 is Friday - NOON dismissal.

I challenge each of you to set a time each day this summer where ALL devices go away (including yours). Instead play, talk, walk, eat, do a puzzle together, read as a family. It is more important than ever to be PRESENT, not just there, for your children. This is not anything I had to contend with as a parent, but I see how many of us use/look at our devices so often, so automatically, sometimes so compulsively. Even a half hour is something - and really doable.

Thank you for the privilege of sharing your children with me and all of us at North Salem. No matter how challenging the day, one of yours always makes me smile and laugh. It's impossible not to when you work with such a pawesome group of children, families, teachers, and staff. While I welcome some down time and shorter work days, the anticipation of a new school year continues to fill me with excitement, eagerness, and happiness that I get to do it all over again. I am lucky and grateful.

Wishing you the best summer ever,

Janice