

SCHOOL'S IN SESSION

Cleaning Tips from the Experts at Merry Maids

Neatness Counts

(NAPSA)—Here are hints for your home and family from the cleaning experts at Merry Maids.

- **Establish command central.** Determine a place, usually in the kitchen, for mail, calendar, bulletin board, car keys, school papers, grocery lists, etc. Every family member should have a shelf for messages and an out box for filing clutter on a daily basis.



Give each family member a place to keep clutter—and keep the rest of the house clutter-free.

- **Make use of the mat.** Use only one entry door into your home. Put a mat outside the door and a sturdy nylon mat inside to catch dirt. Remember to shake them out and vacuum frequently.

- **Conquer clutter.** Divide clutter into three groups: junk, charity and Twilight Zone. Get rid of the first two now, and store the third until you can decide what to do with it.

- **Remove temptation.** If you pile clutter on a table near a door, get rid of the table so you're more likely to put things where they belong.

- **Touch up with towels.** After getting the kids off to school, use an all-purpose cleaner like Murphy® Oil Soap and paper towels for quick touch ups in the kitchen and bathroom to keep these rooms looking clean and smelling fresh.

- **Avoid project pile up.** Sort through the kids' old art projects and throw away what you can. File what you want to keep in a shoebox to make room on the refrigerator for new projects and papers.

Founded in 1979, Merry Maids provides customized residential cleaning services through more than 850 franchises and branches in the United States and 1,150 franchises worldwide. For more information on residential cleaning, visit the Merry Maids Web site at www.merrymaids.com or call 1-800-MERRYMAIDS.