



Dear First Grade Parents,

As first grade approaches, I would like to welcome you and your child to first grade! This year will be a productive year full of learning and growth, and I am more than excited to embark on this first grade journey with each of your families. As a first grader, your child will grow tremendously throughout the course of this year both academically and socially. I consider first grade to be the groundwork for the rest of your child's academic career. With that being said, you will find that I spend a lot of time focusing on responsibility, independence, and manners. Students are most successful when their parents and teacher work together as a team. I look forward to becoming your teammate this year and doing what is best to encourage, support, and appropriately challenge your child each day along with you.

Helpful Hints for the first day:

I encourage you to pack a small, **healthy snack** for your child to have each morning. Snacks should be light and something that your child can open & eat easily on their own. Please **label** their snack if possible, so they don't accidentally eat their lunch at snack time. Each student may have a **water bottle** in class each day, but please do not send juice boxes in for snack. It would be great if you would **pack your child's morning snack and water bottle in a gallon sized Ziploc bag**. Most first graders know this procedure as having a "water catcher." It saves folders, lunch bags and library books from getting wet in the event of a spill.

There is also an **optional questionnaire about** your child on our **classroom website**. The information you provide will help me get to know, connect with, and understand your child's needs from the very start. To make our first day run smoothly, please make sure your child is wearing their name tag. If you misplaced the name tag that came in the mail, you can use any label/index card. Please include the following:

- **Name (first/last):** If your child has a nickname he/she prefers to be called please write that name on the nametag.
- **Transportation:** Please write how your child will be getting home each day. Ex: bus #, car-pooler, walker, or After School Program
- **Lunch:** Please write what your child will be eating on the first day of school. Ex: packed lunch or buying.

Thank you for your help. It will make our first day together run smoothly! I look forward to meeting you! Thank you for being a partner in your child's education.

Warmest regards,

Mrs. Yurick (Miss Casselli)