

# Welcome to First Grade!

June 2017

Dear Families,

Welcome to First Grade! My name is Mr. Bill Hartigan and I will be your child's teacher for the 2017-2018 school year. I just completed my 18<sup>th</sup> year of teaching elementary students. I have been at Mill Creek since it opened. That first year I taught fifth grade and then I moved to Kindergarten for five years and then second grade for the last eleven years. I am very excited to move to first grade. It is such a special year and I look forward to guiding your child as they learn and grow from September to June!

There are some supplies that your child will need for first grade. The list of supplies is attached. I have also included a letter explaining a home-school communication/organization binder that I implement in my classroom. This binder will be filled with resources and will help to keep your child organized.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to email me at [whartigan@cbsd.org](mailto:whartigan@cbsd.org). I look forward to working with you and your child next year. Enjoy your summer vacation!

Sincerely,

Mr. H.



# B.E.A.R.

## Bring Everything, Always Ready

Dear Families,

Welcome to room 109! I am looking forward to a productive, successful, and fun 2017-2018 school year. Together we can make it a great year for the children.

In our classroom, I will implement a home-school communication system used by many other teachers around the country. It is a binder with plastic sleeves, a zippered pencil pouch, and folders used to house important information and homework papers. It also serves as a vehicle for any needed communication between teacher and parents. We will be calling the binders our BEAR (Bring Everything, Always Ready) binder.

In order to facilitate this system, you will need to supply your children with a few items in addition to those on the first grade supply list. These items are found at any office supply store, Target-type stores, and I have even found them at some dollar stores!

Here is what each student will need:



1" plastic binder with inside pockets on the covers



1 **plastic** folder  
(3 holes and 2 pockets)



1 zippered pencil pouch (3 holes)

Please try to have these materials into school on the first day so I can organize and label the books. The sooner the supplies are here, the sooner we can begin using them. I will share more information explaining our BEAR binders and how we will use them at Back to School Night. Thank you so much for your help with this project. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

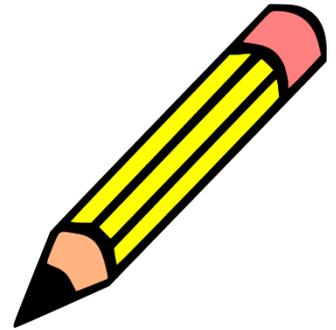
Sincerely,  
Mr. H.  
whartigan@cbsd.org

# Welcome to First Grade at Mill Creek Elementary

The First Grade Team would like to welcome you and your child to Mill Creek Elementary! We are all very excited about the opportunity to work with you to make this upcoming school year a success. We wanted to give you early notice about what supplies your child will need. We have found that each student benefits from having his/her own supply of school tools. Those Back to School sales usually start popping up at the end of July, and you'll now be ready to take advantage of them.

## Supplies needed for the first day of school:

- 1 box of **Crayola** crayons (24 count/no larger)
- Sharpened #2 pencils (at least 10-12)
- A small supply box (no larger than a cigar box)
- 4 large glue sticks
- 1 pair of scissors



## Supplies needed by the end of the first week:

- 1 package of 4 low-odor dry erase markers (**red, black, blue, or green**)
- 1 dry-erase board eraser (to be used with your child's white board)
- An old, clean adult shirt or smock to be used during art class
- A pair of headphones for the computer lab/iPads (**please try to avoid ear buds**)
- A container of antibacterial disinfecting cleaning wipes and/or baby wipes.
- A disposable **14 oz. Ziploc circle container** to hold your child's coins (We've found that Ziploc's are the easiest for the children to open. The 14 oz. size container allows them to easily see all their coins and fits nicely in their tool kits.)
- Your child will need a supply of coins for use during math class. In the above described container please place: **100 pennies, 10 dimes, 20 nickels, and 4 quarters.**
- Last name A-M: 1 bottle hand sanitizer
- Last name N-Z: 1 box of tissues

**Be sure to label your child's school supplies so that they may be returned to him/her if misplaced throughout the year.**

Have a great summer, and be sure to check the Mill Creek web site at [www.cbsd.org/millcreek](http://www.cbsd.org/millcreek) for updates regarding the upcoming school year.