



June 2010

Dear Families,

Congratulations! You are the parent of a first-grader! You will be amazed at just how much your child will grow this year. Most likely, your child has had the seeds of reading and writing planted in kindergarten. Those seeds will grow and blossom, making your child an accomplished reader and writer! You will see changes in your child's thinking, as he/she becomes familiar with abstract concepts and symbols. The change will be dramatic -- just compare a tiny seed with a full-grown sunflower! That's the kind of growth you'll see this year!

It is also recommended that your children continue to practice writing this summer. We suggest you create a journal or a diary that your child can write in at least three to four times a week. It is imperative to keep up with all grammar skills this summer.

Ways to Help Your Child Bloom

The most lovely flowers usually have the best gardener -- and that's you! September will be here before you know it. To help prepare your child's transition into first grade, I've enclosed a list of materials needed for school, a summer reading list, and summer work that your child can complete over the summer months. Staying involved in your child's education is the key to a successful year. Engage your child in conversation about his/her day, but know that children won't always give out much information. I will send home a weekly newsletter called the "Grade One Gazette" detailing



our activities for the week. You can use this as a springboard for discussion; instead of saying "What did you do at school today?" (the answer is often "nothing!"), you can say, "Oh, I see you're learning about....what did you find out?" Some parents save these newsletters as a special remembrance of their child's first grade year.



Another way to stay involved is to check your child's take home folder EVERY evening. You'll usually find it PACKED with school and homework, projects, flyers, notices from the office, as well as, notes from me. As daunting as it may be, try to sort through them, and read each one; they often contain important information and reminders. Your child should come to school the next day with a fairly empty folder -- just homework or notes to me!

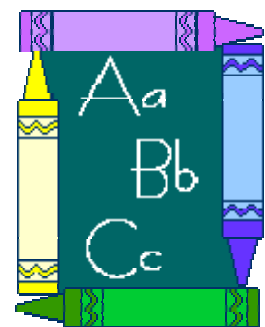
A Few Procedures

To help keep things growing "weed-free", it helps to remember our class procedures. If you are picking your child up from school, or if someone else is, please send in a **SIGNED, DATED** note with your child's **FULL NAME** written on it.

Your child will need a small, healthy snack each day, packed **SEPARATELY** from lunch in a bag or sack with his/her name on it. Lunches should be in a lunch box or bag with the name on the **OUTSIDE**. If your child is buying lunch, please send the money in an envelope with your child's name.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Butterworth



Here is a list of the supplies you will need when you come to first grade!

TO BRING TO SCHOOL EACH DAY

A large backpack or bookbag with your FULL NAME on the outside

A lunchbox with your FULL NAME on the outside

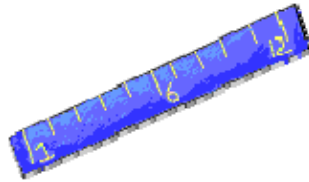
A SNACK is needed each day.

Uniform requirements- Please be sure your child is dressed in his/her uniform daily.

SUPPLIES TO KEEP IN YOUR DESK

- ✓ at least TWENTY-FOUR sharpened pencils with erasers
- ✓ a smock for art (an old shirt works, write your FULL name on it)
- ✓ a three-ring binder (one inch is best)
- ✓ A pencil box (Please label)
- ✓ One box of Crayola crayons
- ✓ FOUR Jumbo glue sticks
- ✓ Two Plain two-pocket folders
- ✓ Two Composition notebooks
- ✓ A pair of scissors





DONATIONS WE CAN ALWAYS USE!

THESE ITEMS ARE NOT PART OF THE FIRST GRADE SUPPLY LIST, BUT ARE ITEMS YOU MAY DONATE, IF YOU WISH!

****Kleenex tissues****

****Dry-erase (white board) markers**

****Paper towels****

****Glue sticks (not liquid)**

****Clorox wipes****

****Paper goods such as plates, napkins, and cups**

****Disinfectant hand wipes (Wet Ones)****

****Baby wipes for quick clean-ups**

****Crayola Makers****

****Elmer's Glue bottles****

****Plastic baggies - any size**



TO KEEP AT HOME FOR HOMEWORK USE!

sharpened pencils with erasers

glue (any type) and scissors

crayons, markers, craft items

plain white paper, colored paper, lined paper

dotted dice

coins and game markers (pawns)

a folder for keeping *ALL* of your spelling lists



Grade One Summer work 2010

1. Reading:

First graders should be reading and should keep a reading log of each book read. (please see attached reading log)

2. Writing:

After reading write one sentence about your favorite part in the book on the reading log.

3. Math:

Practice counting objects and groups of things.

4. High frequency word list (see attached sheet)

First Grade High Frequency Word List

I recommend writing these words on flashcards and reviewing them with your child. You may even choose to play a memory or matching game. Review these words in chunks using only six at a time until mastery occurs. That way your child will not be overwhelmed.

a
blue
I
red
see
yellow

at
and
can
the
look
my

big
have
it
is
in
little

do
like
not
that
to
you

get
one
two
three
what
we

up
go
here
but
where
am



**St. Pius X School
Grade 1
Summer Reading List**

Authors Too Good To Miss

Avi
Andrew Clements
Sharon Creech
Tomie DePaola
Patricia Reilly Giff
Russell Hoban
Eva Ibbotson
Suzy Kline
Leo Lionni
Arnold Lobel
James Marshall
Phyllis Reynolds Naylor
Laura Numeroff
Mary Pope Osborne
Barbara Park
Gary Paulsen
David Shannon
Jerry Spinelli
Mark Teague
Rosemary Wells

Suggested Books:

Miss Nelson Has A Field Day by Harry Allard
Frog and Toad Are Friends by Arnold Lobel
George and Martha by James Marshall
Tikki Tikki Tembo by Arlene Mosel
If You Give A Pig A Pancake by Laura Numeroff
Sylvester and the Magic Pebble by William Steig
Edward Unready for School by Rosemary Wells
A Chair for My Mother by Vera Williams
The Napping House by Audrey Wood
William's Doll by Charlotte Zolotow

Recommended Series:

Henry and Mudge by Cynthia Rylant
Junie B. Jones by Barbara Park
Horrible Harry by Suzie Kline
Magic Tree House by Mary Pope Osborne