

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Welcome to the First Grade! The First Grade Team, Mrs. Ashman, Mrs. Glomb, Mrs. Karyczak, and Ms. Wolfson are so excited for a great year! As a school now designated as a "School in GOOD Standing," we have a great school year ahead of us, and we are looking forward to working with you and your child. With your participation and cooperation, I'm sure your child will experience a very positive year! It is a big transition for your child going from Kindergarten to First Grade. The **KEY** to a great experience is continual Parent/Teacher Communication.

You can expect to receive for your child:

- Information about upcoming events
- A Monthly Reading Log
- Daily Homework
- List of Tricky words and Sight words we expect to be worked on.

We expect your child to:

- Have a PENCIL every day.
- Their supplies to be ready for the school year as soon as possible.
If this is a problem please contact your child's teacher immediately.
- For their TAKE HOME folder check every day.
- Your child to complete Assessments throughout the year to check their progress

We ask that your child know the following upon entering our classes.

How to write and spell their FIRST NAME and LAST NAME.

Bus Number - Morning and Afternoon

Throughout the school year for your child learn to tie their shoes - unfortunately we do not teach that in school.

All material that is taught to your child is based on the New York State Common Core Learning Standards.

Any assistance needed or question you have about what we are teaching your child can be found on the following website or of course by contacting your child's teacher.

The information can be found under the Common Core tab then follow the Common Core Curriculum tab to the 1st grade ELA or Math curriculum. ELA - Journeys and Math Modules. The website for the Math curriculum - www.engageny.org
ELA curriculum - www.k6.thinkcentral.com

We also utilize the following programs and assessment in addition to the Curriculum found on the above website:

- Magic Penny
- DIBELS
- District Based Assessments
- PARENT PORTAL is also available to you at any time (your child's on-going report card)

READING/WRITING/ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

When A Child Enters 1st Grade, He/She Should Know:

- How to Speak in Complete Sentences to Explain Ideas Clearly
- Listening Skills (Following Directions, Listening to Stories Read Aloud, Engaging in Conversation)
- Letter Recognition and Sounds
- Use of Phonics to Decode Words
- Basic Sight Words (e.g. and, the, I, me, you)
- How to Use the Calendar (Days and Months of the Year)
- Recognition of Color Words/ Number Words (One to Thirty)
- Print Awareness and Parts of a Book (Author, Illustrator, Cover, Title Page, Print is Read Left-to-Right)
- How to Re-tell a Story and Identify Characters (Beginning, Middle, End)

- That Writing Conveys Meaning (Speech Into Print)
- Have Motivation to Read

MATH

When A Child Enters 1st Grade, He/She Should Know:

- Write and recognize numbers 1-20
- Basic shapes (rectangle, square, diamond, rectangle, circle)
- Recognize and create a pattern ABABAB or ABCABCABC
- Add and subtract numbers to 5
- Can count to 100
- What a number bond is and how to use it
- How to count by 2s, 5s, and 10s to 100.

Literacy Skills Taught in 1st Grade

- Letter-Sound Correspondences including Consonant and Short and Long Vowels
- Decode Grade Level words using Know of Root Words, prefixes, suffixes, verb endings, plurals, contractions and compound words.
- Identify parts of a book and their purposes including author, illustrator, title page, table of contents, and chapter headings.
- Sight-Read 300-500 words including Sight (Tricky) and Decodable words
- Study antonyms, synonyms and homonyms to learn new grade level vocabulary
- Use a dictionary to learn the meaning of words
- Use comprehension strategies (Predict/Confirm, Reread, Self-Correct, Ask Questions) to comprehend text
- Summarize main ideas from Informational Texts
- Show interest in reading a range of grade level texts including stories, folktales, fairy tales, poems and informational texts
- How to write compositions and begins to use the writing process
- Attend to a Listening activity for a specified period of time
- Speak for different purposes (share ideas or information, retell a story, dramatize an experience or event).

Math Skills taught in 1st grade

- Understand greater than, less than, lighter than, heavier than, the same as, etc.
- Recognize and write numbers up to 120
- Count by twos, fives, and 10s to 120.
- Mentally add numbers to 10
- Add and subtract to 20 then to 120 using place value
- Understand that numbers between 1-99 are based on tens and ones (place value)
- Identify, add and subtract with pennies, nickels, dimes and quarters
- Tell time to the hour and half hour
- Recognize 2-dimensional and 3-dimensional shapes
- Use simple graphs to record information and answer questions
- Recognize and use simple mathematical symbols (e.g. "+", "=", "<", ">", "-")
- Read thermometers and use measuring tools like rulers.
- How to show their mathematical thinking to solve a problem.
- Use many different strategies taught to solve the same problem.
- How to write an equation or expression (e.g. $8 + 3$, $8+3=11$)
- Learn and use mathematical language

Please feel free to contact your child's teacher with any questions through our emails or call us at (716)816-3900.

Mrs. Ashman - jashman@buffaloschools.org

Mrs. Glomb - kglomb@buffaloschools.org

Mrs. Karyczak - kmkaryczak@buffaloschools.org

Ms. Wolfson - awolfson@buffaloschools.org

Sincerely,

The First Grade Team

Student Name: _____

Parent Signature: _____

Print Parent Name: _____