



JUNE 2023

Dear Incoming First Grade Families,

I would first like to let you know how excited I am to be working and learning with you and your first graders next year!! While in Kindergarten, your children learned so many important skills that they will need in 1st Grade. I would like to take this opportunity to welcome you and encourage you to spend some time this summer reinforcing the skills your child learned this year, so that they will be well prepared for First Grade. It is incredibly important to read with your child every day. To ensure your child is understanding the daily reading, ask questions as you read together (Who is in the story? What happened in this story? What do you think will happen next? Why do you think they did that?). To reinforce phonemic awareness, play phonics games such as: If I change the "b" in "bat" to "m," what word do I get? Mat! Good! Now what if I change the "t" to "d" Mad!" You can also make up nonsense words and ask your child to spell the word phonemically.

These activities are wonderful ways to enjoy language arts and strengthen initial reading skills.

Math can be reviewed with counting (by 1's, 5's, 10's, etc...), adding and subtracting within 10, looking for patterns, and matching shapes. Card games using traditional cards, flashcards, UNO, or Blink can be fun ways to practice these skills! Connecting the dots activities and family board games are also a great way to review number sequence.

Additionally, placing a calendar and analog clock in a prominent place in your home is also a good way for your child to become familiar with them.

Of course, the primary objecting of all of these suggestions is to have fun as you practice and review, keeping the necessary skills shard. We hope you and your family have a wonderful summer filled with rest and happy times!

God bless and looking forward to working with you!

~Meghan Farnsworth