

First Grade

Dear Family,

I wish to welcome you and your child to first grade! Your child has been assigned to grow as a reader, writer, scientist, and mathematician with me this school year. I am looking forward to spending the year with you and your child.

I promise to provide the children with many interesting activities. Throughout the year, we will explore themes such as school, friends, plants, dinosaurs, ocean life, and many more. The children will be encouraged to learn and grow in a safe and educational environment.

Each day the first graders will participate in a reading workshop where they will learn decoding and comprehension strategies at their own reading levels. Learning centers are a highlight of the day! Children have the opportunity to visit a variety of learning centers to reinforce the skills taught in small groups. Writing workshop is also a favorite time for our first grade authors! The children are introduced to the Six Traits of Writing and participate in lessons that will help them grow as writers. Our classroom library is filled with books so the children are exposed to the writing techniques of many different authors!

Our Flat Stanley project is a hit with all of the families. Flat Stanley is a character in a book by Jeff Brown who is flattened by a bulletin board. He soon finds out how many wonderful adventures he can have while he is flat. The children make a Flat Stanley and keep a journal of his adventures through the year.

For more information about our first grade program, please see our *First Grade ABC Handbook* on the home page.

Mrs. Sharon Chalmers

