

Here's The Scoop About First Grade



Folder: I have asked that each student bring in a sturdy, 2 pocket folder. This folder will play a very important tool for parent and teacher communication. This folder will travel back and forth to school each and every day. Your child will be the courier and you will be responsible for going through the folder each day. I promise that I will do the same. Any homework, lunch money, dismissal note, question...should be sent by way of folder. Any notes I have for you, will be placed in the folder from my end. Thank you in advance for your cooperation in be an active participant in your child's first grade year.

Phone: Our class phone number is 508-627-3316 ext.128. The best time to reach me is right before school 8:00-8:10 or right after school 2:45-3:00. Please **do not** leave dismissal plans for on the voicemail. It's best to call the office and leave a message there if you do not get us on the phone. We don't always get the chance to check it before the end of the day.

E-mail: My email address is: gail_lachapelle@mvyps.org. Please note if I am absent,I may not get to the email until the next day.

Snack: One thing in First Grade that is different from Kindergarten is snack time. We will have snack every morning. You are in charge of your child's snack everyday. He/She should bring in a small, healthy snack to tide them over until lunch. We will also have fruit available in the classroom, but the type can vary from day-to-day. Please feel free to leave a cup in your child's cubby for water, which can be filled at our classroom drinking fountain at snack time.

Schedule: We have several specials throughout the week including Gym (twice), Music, Art, Computer(twice), Library, and Health. I will send out the schedule more specifically in the first week of school.

Homework: Homework in First Grade is limited. For the first week or so there will not be any written homework, just reading. I will be sending home a Math worksheet on most nights. The purpose of this assignment is to reinforce the lesson taught that day. It should not take longer than 10 minutes. Again, it is sent home for reinforcement.

Reading at home: Your child is at a critical point in the learning process. The more practice they get with their reading the better they will get! Please spend at least 15 minutes a night reading with your child.

After school Plans: If your child's plan for after school is different from his/her "typical" day, **I must have a note in writing letting me know.** This is to keep your child safe!

School Visits: If you come to visit your child you need to stop in the office and get a visitor's pass. Also, if you are interested in chaperoning any of our field trips this year or volunteering in the school, you will need to have a CORI. These are good for 3 years and can be done at the Superintendent's office. It can take a few weeks to process a CORI. Thank you for your attention to this!

Lunch: Please be sure to review the lunch menu with your child before each day if they plan on buying. The lunch menu is on the website and also posted in our classroom.

Celebrations: It is our school policy that if you would like to bring in a healthy snack or treat for your child's birthday or for a holiday, that you let me know what that snack will be 48 hours in advance. This helps with students who may have food allergies or intolerances so that we can make sure they have a treat that is safe for them. Thank you in advance!

Parent Involvement: We will work together to make this a successful year for your child. Here are some ways you can help your child have a positive and successful year:

Celebrate Your Child: I will send home student work in a Home Folder. Please go through this work with your child. This will keep your child enthusiastic about learning and proud of his/her many successes in school!

Stay Informed: Look for and read your child's newsletter which I will send out weekly. This will have important information for the upcoming week, along with exciting events from the previous week, spelling words, sight words and helpful reminders. This will also be posted on the Edgartown School site on our web page (www.edgartownschool.org) weekly.

Be Involved: Read to and with your child everyday, if possible. The more your child is exposed to language, the easier it will be for him/her to incorporate new skills in reading and writing in the classroom. You and your child should be reading for at least 15 minutes a day. This can be you reading to them, each one of you taking turns reading, or your child reading to you. Lastly, please be in touch with any questions or concerns.