

Friday, August 31, 2018

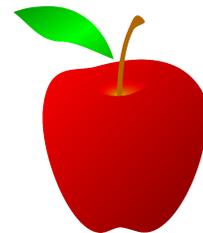
Dear Families,

I am happy to report that we had a great first three days of First Grade! I am so thrilled to be teaching First Grade with this wonderful group of children. With their help, the first three days were quite successful and we really came together as a group. Thank you also for your support and generosity in donating to our class supply list! I am so thankful to be working with such wonderful children and parents this year.

To answer some of your questions, the following are a few things that I would like to notify you about:

Home to School Folders

Please get in the habit of checking your child's backpack nightly for their Home to School Folder. This folder will have all important information that I send home, as well as school work and homework. Likewise, you can use it to send me any information. It is essential that we all work together to make sure that we and the children are taking responsibility of this folder so it travels back and forth on a daily basis.



Snack/Lunch

We have a snack every morning. Our morning snack is provided by the Burlington Schools Food Service. It is my preference that children eat the snack provided by the school. Our daily lunch time is 12:05 therefore we

will have AM snack at 9:00 and no additional afternoon snack. Please make sure your child eats a healthy breakfast before school so they are energized until the morning snack time. You may choose to pre-pay for 'Hot lunch' or send your child in with money daily. Most families choose to pre-pay.

Remember to contact the Burlington Food Service at 864-8416 if you have additional questions about the snack/lunch program.

Extra Clothes

Sometimes children have accidents at school. In order to help avoid any embarrassment we suggest that you keep a spare set of clothes and a plastic bag in your child's backpack at all times.

Labels

Many children have similar lunchboxes, clothes and backpacks. Often, children do not recognize their own belongings after they have been left at school for a couple of days. Please label **ALL of your child's belongings that come to school** so we can avoid lost items. And please leave ALL toys at home unless they are for the purposes of share or a classroom celebration.

Book Orders

Occasionally, enclosed in your child's Home to School Folder, you will find some monthly book orders. Please look through these with your child and return any orders and money **one week from the date that you receive them**. The checks should be made out to Scholastic Book Club.



Specials

The children will be participating in various "Special Classes" each week. They include: **Art, Physical Education (PE), Guidance, Learning Center and Music.** The only one that requires special equipment is PE. Students will need sneakers for this class. Some parents find it easier to simply leave a pair of sneakers in their child's cubby for the year. I have included a copy of our class schedule for your information.

We will visit the Learning Center (library) once a week. Students will be able to check out a book during one or both of those times. They will be able to return it one week from the check out date. Usually, children may not check out another book until the other is returned. I suggest keeping your library books in a safe place at home, out of reach of younger siblings and pets, to prevent loss or damage. If you lose a book, please come in and speak with Mrs. Neil, our school librarian.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Quinn	PE	Music	Learning Center	Art PE/Music	Art/Tech

Special Events

On Friday Sept. 14 at 5:30 we will be having the Edmunds Community BBQ. Please come and socialize with kids, parents and staff members.

Birthdays

Birthdays are a special time in the lives of young children. If you would like, please send in a special snack for your child to share with their classmates on their birthday. We encourage healthy options such as muffins, fruit and homemade treats. **Please do not bring birthday invitations to school to be put in folders and/or passed out.** This causes hurt feelings for those that do not receive one. Thanks in advance for your cooperation with this!



Homework

This year, I will only send home Reading homework. I feel it is very important for children to be immersed in reading both at home and at school. Each Monday, I will send home a reading log for your child to work on. They can be returned on Friday of that week.

We will not be sending additional homework in other subject areas as we feel it is more developmentally appropriate for kids to be playing and spending time with family and friends after school.

If you are looking for extra activities and games to play with your child, please check out our website (<http://eesfirstgradeteam.weebly.com>) under the homework section.

Volunteers

Some of you indicated that you are available and interested in volunteering in the classroom. I LOVE volunteers! The BEST times to volunteer include: Reader's and Writer's Workshop, Math, Project time and Science. If interested, please review the attached volunteer sheet and indicate a time that would be convenient for you. After that, I'll send a confirmation back to you. If you are not available weekly, please feel free to touch base with me a couple days ahead so we can pick a time that works best for you to come in. You are always welcome to drop in,

however sometimes this creates some separation issues for the kids, so I have found that a set time is often easier. Also, please leave your little ones at home when you come in to volunteer.



Pick-Up

Please send in a list (with names and phone numbers) of anyone who will be picking your child up from school on a regular basis. This is extremely important so I can be sure that your child is going with a trusted individual. Also, on those occasions when someone (other than those listed) picks up your child, please e-mail or put a note in his/her folder so there is no confusion on my part or theirs. Please remember to wait outside M.T and TH, F at 2:50 for pick-up, Wednesday pick up is 1:50pm. We will be exiting the building at the East door (facing the field). If there is a more convenient place for pick-up please make sure you let me know and discuss how to get to this place safely, or find an older "buddy" for your student to walk with, or ride the bus with.

Contacting Me

The best ways to get in touch with me are to either send a note to me in the Home to School folder, come into the classroom after school, or email me at kquinn@bsdvt.org.

You can also call me at school at 864-8473.

Thanks for all your support!

Kara Quinn
EES First Grade