

August 23, 2013

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to a new school year! I hope that you all had a wonderful summer. I am writing to let you know my expectations for your child's first grade year.

First grade is a very busy year for your child. We learn so many new things about reading and math. I would ask you to set aside 20 minutes each night, Monday through Friday or Sunday through Thursday, to work on homework with your child.

Reading is a very important skill for your child to learn. I am asking your child to read or be read to for at least 15 minutes, 4 times per week. Reading more is encouraged, but not required. This time is not included in the homework time. Reading is such an important skill and the only way for our students to become better readers is to read! The students will have an assignment notebook/student planner, which will list the amount of reading to be completed each night. The assignment notebook is explained later in this letter.

Spelling words will come home and need to be studied during the week. Math facts will also be coming home to practice. These are the typical "homework" activities for the time you set aside at night. Feel free to practice facts using flash cards, games, or any other ways you can think of.

This year your child will have an assignment notebook/student planner that will require your signature or initials **each night** on the line next to where you check if the homework is completed. The notebook will be filled out by your child (or myself from time to time) each day listing their homework for the evening. I will check the notebooks each morning for a parent signature. It is my hope that this will become a tool for communication between school and home.

I am thrilled to be able to work with your child this year. I know this will be a great year! If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me through email or here at school. I am here by 7:30 a.m. and I usually leave around 3:30 p.m.

Mrs. Evarts