

August 2015

Dear Parents and Students,

Welcome to first grade! I hope you all are enjoying your summer and making many great memories. I am excited to be your child's teacher this year at Highland Park. I have been teaching for 14 years and this will be my 9th year with Manchester Public Schools. I previously taught at Washington Elementary School in 1st, 2nd, and 3rd grade, as well as 6 years with Hartford Public Schools in 5th and 2nd grade.

I am really looking forward to this school year and working with your child. I have a real passion for reading and I hope to foster this love of reading within each student so they can flourish for a lifetime. First grade is such a big year of learning and with your support at home I hope to make many gains with your child in reading, writing and math. Most importantly, I want you all to be welcomed into my classroom. I encourage parent volunteers and you are always welcome to contact me with any concerns or questions through e-mail or phone calls.

I am enclosing a suggested supply list with this letter. Please try to bring the supplies within the first week of school. If you are unable to purchase these supplies please let me know. Our first day of school is Thursday Aug. 27th. The day begins at 9:05. Dismissal will be at 3:25. If your child is a walker, they are dismissed when the bell rings from my classroom. Bus & MELC students are dismissed accordingly as well.

Lastly, students are allowed to bring a healthy snack to school on a daily basis (be sure to bring one on the first day). In addition, I do inform students that there will be no sharing of snacks due to allergies. **Healthy snacks can be:** fruit, veggies, yogurt, applesauce, raisins, granola bars, crackers, cheese sticks, goldfish, animal crackers, pretzels.

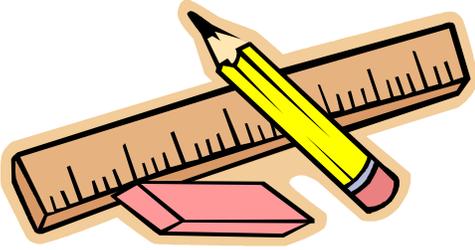
Enjoy these last few days of summer! I look forward to meeting all of you on the first day of school!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Smyth

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Suggested Supply List for First Grade

- ❖ 2 two-pocket folders
- ❖ 1 box of 12 - #2 Pencils
- ❖ 1 box of 12 crayons
- ❖ Kid size scissors
- ❖ 3 large glue sticks
- ❖ A hard, plastic pencil box that will fit all of these supplies
- ❖ 1 small box of Kleenex (tissues)

- ❖ Please put your child's name on all materials

- ❖ When thinking about a backpack for the upcoming school year, please consider purchasing a large enough backpack that will be enough to carry items to and from school.