

August 2016

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 15 years and this will be my 10th 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.

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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