



We are thrilled to be back in the classroom with our new 1st grade friends! It was a pleasure to see everyone at our Open House and Back To School Night in August. Our year is off to a great start, and we are excited about the curriculum in September.

**Reading:** Messaging Meaning is our first unit in **Reading**. Students will demonstrate an understanding of setting, characters, and the main idea in a fiction story. Students will also ask and answer questions about key details in a text.

**Foundations:** Phonics and spelling will be embedded into our literacy block. We focus on daily **Word Study** along with word families and sight words. On Friday we give a word study check-up to monitor your child's progress in spelling. This check-up is not entered into the gradebook.

**Writing:** We have started our Personal Narrative Unit. This is a special kind of writing that tells real stories from our students' lives. Students will write a variety of personal narratives that will include two or more sequenced events along with transition words. As we begin daily writing, we will have a strong focus on conventions.

**Math:** The kids are enjoying our **Everyday Math** curriculum. In Unit 1 we are learning about different types of tools we use in math. This includes using number lines, ten frames, and tallies. In Unit 2 we will be practicing counting, skip counting and organizing data. We will also introduce simple addition, solving number stories, sums of ten, and continued practice using math tools.

**Social Studies:** We are implementing our new district **Social Studies** program, Teacher Created Materials. Our first unit is The Language of Time. Students will be exploring the concept of chronology using a calendar and vocabulary related to time.

**Second Step:** The first-grade team is implementing the **Second Step** program. Second Step is a program to support social-emotional learning. It also helps provide a successful learning environment that encourages children to thrive. The program will enable children to take an active role in regulating their social-emotional skills.

We are continuing to keep our **classrooms a safe environment** for our students. We have daily handwashing along with the use of hand sanitizer as needed. Face masks are worn throughout the day but can be taken off for recess. Please make sure your child has two face masks at school every day.

Please make sure you are checking in with your child to see what homework needs to be completed each night and returned the next day. Please let your teacher know if you have any questions or concerns as we start a new year together. We are looking forward to a great month in 1st grade!

Mrs. Kover, Mrs. Loeffler, and Mrs. Mickelson.



Important Dates:

**9/2** - Individual Picture Day

PTO meeting with Dr. Mike @ 8:05 in Cafeteria

**9/6** - Labor Day (no school)

**9/7** - Assessment Day (your child will only need to come during the time you signed up for - no regular school on assessment day)

**9/14** - Vision and Hearing Screening