



# Welcome To

# First Grade

First Grade is a special place at Brecknock. We are looking forward to a great year full of learning and fun. Included in this packet is information that will be helpful to make this year run smoothly.

## Curriculum

Below is a list of what your child will be studying in first grade this year. We will be working hard!

### Reading & Writing

*This is the second year that we are using our Reading Street curriculum. Students will have lots of opportunities to engage in authentic reading and writing opportunities as they continue their literacy journey.*

- ◆ Whole Group Reading
- ◆ Partner Reading
- ◆ Read Alouds
- ◆ Guided Reading
- ◆ Independent Reading
- ◆ Book Buddies
- ◆ Teacher Modeled Writing
- ◆ Shared Writing
- ◆ Independent Writing
- ◆ Journals

## **Writing Skills**

- ◆ Spacing
- ◆ End Punctuation
- ◆ Beginning/Middle/End of Story
- ◆ Spelling Sight Words
- ◆ Adding Details
- ◆ Writing different genres - Narrative, Informative, Non-Fiction, Persuasive

## **Math**

*Our math curriculum is called Everyday Math. This is a fast paced curriculum with games and activities that the children enjoy. Attached is more information regarding how the program is set up.*

- ◆ Numbers through 100
- ◆ Counting by 2's, 5's, and 10's
- ◆ Addition facts to 20
- ◆ Subtraction facts to 20
- ◆ Fractions
- ◆ Tens & Ones
- ◆ Time
- ◆ Money
- ◆ Problem-solving

## **Social Studies**

- ◆ Map Skills
- ◆ Landforms
- ◆ Historical Figures
- ◆ Folk Heroes
- ◆ Patriotic Songs
- ◆ Goods and Services

## **Science**

- ◆ Matter
- ◆ Living/Non-living
- ◆ Plants
- ◆ Dinosaurs
- ◆ Extinction
- ◆ Animals
- ◆ Health

# First Grade Specials

A Day - Computer Lab

B day - Music

C Day - Phys. Ed.

*Please wear sneakers.*

D Day - Art

*Please send a paint shirt in your child's backpack each week.*

E Day - Library

*Please remember to return your library books each week.*

# Home/School Folders

Each student has received a folder to use for communication between home and school. It is important that students bring this folder EACH day. Please check the folder each day for important papers from school. Also, if you have an important note for the teacher, please make sure that it is returned to school in the orange folder.

## Dress

Please dress your child comfortably. Spills and accidents do happen. Please note that students are not permitted to wear TANK TOPS to school. Due to safety concerns, shoes worn by students should be secured on the back of their feet. Clogs, flip-flops, and strapless sandals are NOT preferred. Also, as winter approaches, make sure winter coats can be closed by your child. Please label all out garments (i.e. gloves, hats, coats,...) Jewelry, while pretty to look at, becomes a distraction in the classroom. Please have your child enjoy their jewelry at home.

## Lunch

You received a letter from the cafeteria at the beginning of the school year. As you know by now, we have a computerized lunch system. To use this system the cafeteria staff requires that you send in money (cash or check) in an envelope with your child's name on it and our classroom number (110). This is *so* helpful to the cafeteria workers. A regular lunch is \$ 1. 70. For more information here is the link [http://www.elanco.org/lunch\\_menu.cfm](http://www.elanco.org/lunch_menu.cfm) . To pay for lunches online go to [www.pay4lunch.com](http://www.pay4lunch.com) . Sign up to have your child's low balance emailed to you! Email [phyllis\\_radcliffe@elanco.org](mailto:phyllis_radcliffe@elanco.org) with child's name and school.

## Daily Snacks

Because our lunch is scheduled at 12:40, we will take time each day to enjoy a quick snack in our classroom. Please send a healthy snack with your child each day. If your child does not bring a snack, there will not be one provided.

## Water Bottles

Your child is welcome to bring a water bottle to keep at his/her desk throughout the day. Please make sure that the water bottle has a **pop-top lid**. This will help to minimize spills. They may not have a screw-on lid at their desks, but they may keep these in their backpacks to drink during snack and drink breaks. The water bottle will be sent home each day so that it can be washed and reused. This year, because of construction, your child will NOT have access to a water fountain in the classroom, so their water bottle will be their opportunity to have a drink at times other than lunch.

## Birthdays

If you wish to share a special treat with the class to celebrate a birthday, please make arrangements with the teacher IN ADVANCE. It is important to know ahead of time, so we can plan our schedules accordingly. Due to time constraints, treats should already be in individual portions.

## Homework

Students will be receiving homework in first grade. However, I am still working on the exact format. More details will be sent home later this month in regards to first grade homework.

# Volunteers

Some of you have already expressed an interest in **volunteering** in our classroom. THANK YOU! The children love when their parents come into our classroom. Forms were sent home last week for you to fill out for volunteering. Homeroom parents are selected by our volunteer coordinator. I will contact homeroom parents to set up our volunteer schedule. I would like to have everyone in who wants to come in. If you would like to help out, but are unable to come into the room please let me know. There are many ways that you can help.

# Communication

It is important to keep the lines of communication open between school and home. Feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns. You may send a note with your child or call me at school (445-8600). I will return your call as soon as possible. You may also contact me by email.

[audra\\_woods@elanco.org](mailto:audra_woods@elanco.org)

I am in the process of getting our classroom website up and running. I will notify you when it is ready. This will serve as a great way for you to stay updated about what is going on in our classroom.

**Looking forward to a GREAT year!**

