



# ABC's of First Grade



First grade is a continuous experience with each day's learning built on **Attendance**

\*Arrival time: Car riders may be dropped off from **7:15 a.m. until 7:45 a.m.** at Great Wagon Trail (front car loop) and then proceed to the cafeteria; students will come to the classroom at **7:30**.

\*If your child is late, **you must** bring him/her into the office to be signed in before coming to the classroom.



If you would like to send a **birthday** treat (store-bought cupcakes, doughnuts, or cookies, etc) with your child on or near his/her birthday, please feel free to do so. Birthday snacks will be served at lunchtime. Please let me know if you would like to have a special snack at school so that I can prepare. We will recognize summer birthdays at the end of the school year (unless it is really, really close to back to

school ☺).

I will send home **book order** forms for you and your child to look over every month. You will be able to order from the flyer or online. Book clubs offer books at reduced prices. It's a great way to build your child's home library!



Parent and Teacher **conferences** are held at the end of the first and second nine weeks and as requested throughout the year by the parent or teacher. Watch for information and reply accordingly.

**Communication** is important. Feel free to contact me whenever you have a question, comment, or concern. You can reach me by phone, in person, by email ([mabej2@guilford.k12.nc](mailto:mabej2@guilford.k12.nc)) or note. I will check G.O. Folders daily for notes from home.

**Curriculum** - Each child will progress as far as he or she can go! Watch the classroom newsletter and the school website for a list of units of study for the grading period.



**Directory** - We will have a class directory that will list contact numbers, emails and addresses for our class. One copy will be given to our classroom grade parent(s) for contacting families about celebrations. One copy will be given to families who are **listed in the directory** for parents to make contacts about birthday parties and play dates.

**Discipline** is simple. We work hard as a class to make the classroom a positive and safe place for all. We will have a behavior chart in the room to promote excellent behavior and manners! Check Homework Folder nightly for your child's clip color on our behavior chart.

**Dismissal time** - 2:30 p.m.

\*All car riders will be picked up from **Great Wagon Trail**. Walkers and bike riders will be dismissed at the beginning of the bus line. **Please be patient during the first few days of school or rainy days.**

\*If your child is a bus rider, please make sure an adult is at home when the bus arrives in the afternoon. Otherwise your child will be **brought back to Pearce!**



My school **email address** is [mabej2@qcsnc.com](mailto:mabej2@qcsnc.com). I check email daily. If you have an **email address** that you'd like me to be aware of, please let me know. I will send out reminders and updates through e-mail regularly throughout the year.

**Early Release Days** - These are special days for professional development meetings for the teaching staff. Dates are listed on the 2018-2019 Guilford County Schools Calendar. They will also be listed in the class newsletter & on their behavior calendars in their homework folders.



Information about **field trips** will come home in homework folders and reminders about field trips will be in the first grade newsletters. If you would like to attend a field trip with us, please send a note with your child's permission slip. We would love for you to join us! All parents attending field trips must have a completed background check on file with GCS.

First Grade is a lot of **FUN!** I love what I do and love to make each day enjoyable for my students.

**Good Behavior** - We expect all children to follow our classroom and school rules.



**G.O. Folders** (Getting Organized Folders) will be your child's homework and daily communication folder throughout the year. Please check it nightly and sign reading logs and behavior logs. Please send any notes to school in G.O. Folder.

They will travel back and forth with your child daily.

**Homework** - Homework will be given on a weekly basis. Your child is responsible for completing their homework and returning it to school in their homework notebook. There will be a more detailed letter coming home about homework. Please take the time to read it and let me know if you have any questions.





First grade is a year of growing **independence!** The children will be walking from the cafeteria/car rider loop to the classroom, unpacking their book bags and making lunch choices **by themselves**. Please do not walk your child to the classroom and unpack their belongings on a daily basis.



We will have 1 classroom helper (Top Cupcake) each day. They will help the teacher with any **jobs** that need to be completed that day. Each child will have a chance to be the Top Cupcake as names are drawn at random.



**Keep updated** by reading the classroom newsletter, our class website, and checking your child's G.O. Folder every day for other notes and information.

**Kiss** your child at the car and say 'good-bye!'



**Lunch** - Our lunchtime is \_\_\_\_\_ a.m. on regular school days. Your child will be assigned a lunch number. This number will access your child's account, in to which you may deposit monies for break-fast, lunch, milk and/or ice cream. You are welcome to join your child to lunch any day you wish after the first week of school.

Lunch is a special time with your child. Your child will be allowed to pick 1 friend to sit with at the end of the table. This allows for special conversation.



**Monday Folders** will be sent home **EVERY** Monday in your child's homework folder. Please check here for your child's class work and graded papers.

#### **Medicine**

All ~~medicines~~—prescription or over the counter—must be accompanied by a medical form, signed by the physician and parent. An adult must bring medicines to school. No medicines may be brought on the school bus.

**Mystery Readers** will read to our class on designated Friday afternoons. Please see the sign-up genius available through our classroom website to sign-up to read to the class this year. It's a secret, don't tell your child if you're coming! Mystery Readers begin in October.



A first grade **newsletter** will be sent home in G.O. Folder for the first two weeks of school. The remainder of the year it will be e-mailed to parents weekly and posted on our class website to keep you informed about what is happening in our class.



**Office** - 605-5480 - If you need to pick your child up early, stop at the office and sign your child out. The office will call us via intercom to send your child to meet you in the office.



**Parties** - We will have three - Winter Celebration, Spring Celebration, and End of the Year. Other special days (Valentine's Day, St. Patrick's, etc.) will be celebrated with simple snacks in class when appropriate.

**PTA** - Please join PTA! It's \$6.00 per person or 2 for 10. Encourage grandparents, aunts, uncles, and all family members to join!

**Questions?** Please feel free to call if you have any questions or concerns.

1<sup>st</sup> Grade **report cards** will be sent home **EVERY** nine weeks. The first report card will be given to you at our fall conference where I will discuss it with you in-depth. When report cards are sent home with your child, they will be enclosed in an envelope. Please sign the front of the envelope and return it to me. The report card is yours to keep.



1<sup>st</sup> Graders have outdoor **recess** each day, weather permitting. Please make sure your child has appropriate outside attire. Please label the inside of jackets and coats with your child's name.

We will use an online reading program called **RAZ-Kids** in class and at home. It will give your child access to books on their reading level to read independently and work on comprehension skills.

**Reading** daily at home with your child for at least 30 minutes is the **BEST** way to see improvements in their reading and promote a love of reading. **READ EVERYDAY!!** Your child will have a reading log to fill out monthly.



Throughout the year, students may be out due to **sickness**. All **sick/make-up** work will be sent home with a note to be completed. Please send a doctor's note, a note from home, or e-mail to have the absence excused within 3 days of an absence.

**Snack** - Each child will need to bring a daily, healthy snack. On the weekly newsletter I will note when we would like someone to send in packaged snacks to have on hand when snacks are forgotten.

**Shoes** - Please have your child wear closed toe shoes every day since we will be going to P.E. or on the playground daily. Flip flops are not allowed at school as they present a safety issue.



**Transportation** - If you need to change your child's afternoon transportation please send us a note in your child's homework notebook. Emailed notes may not be received if there is a sub or a glitch in the system. The best way to know your child will get home the right way is to put a note in the note/money section of the notebook.

Emails may be sent in emergency situations or you can call the office.

**Tie Your Shoes** - If your child doesn't know how to tie their shoes already, please continue to help them learn. Starting in December, I will no longer tie shoes.



"U" are your child's first and most important teacher!



**Volunteers** - Mothers and fathers are welcome to volunteer when your work schedules allow. We can use help with coloring, cutting apart and making games, reading to children, and, as the year progresses, help with classroom crafts and helping in small groups for reading and math. More information about volunteers will be sent home at a later date. All volunteers must complete the ECS Volunteer

sign-up, available through ECS website.



**Work** - Our work, both class work and homework, consists of activities that each child is held accountable. There will be some work that all of our students will complete based on curriculum (science, math, social studies); there will be other assignments that are based on your child's ability level. If you have any questions or concerns we can address them



at our first conference.

I **welcome** parent classroom visits and volunteers.

I will try to update our class **webpage** frequently. I will post upcoming events, homework assignments, pictures of what we're doing, and more on our class webpage.

Our class **Wish List** - Glue sticks, fun pencils, twistable crayons/colored pencils, and small treats (m&ms, lollipops) can always be put to good use in our room!

First Grade is a most **exciting**, magical year!

**Your ideas** and suggestions are welcome!

**Yawns** - Please make sure that your child gets plenty of rest every night. A good breakfast every morning will keep your child alert and ready to learn all day. Breakfast is served at school daily.



**Ziping and other stuff**

Make sure your child can zip his/her coat and pants. Work with your child on taking care of his/her personal needs (going to the restroom unassisted, hand washing, blowing/wiping nose, etc.).

