

Welcome to

FIRST GRADE

August 1, 2023

Dear First Grade Families,

Welcome to the 2023-2024 school year at Madison! My name is Mrs. Idzi, and I have the great privilege of being your child's first grade teacher. Just to let you know a bit about myself, I have been teaching at Madison since 2005 and taught in the Finger Lakes region for seven years prior to that. I am a wife and mother of three amazing children. I attended SUNY Geneseo and am also a Class of 1993 Alumnus of MCS. What an unexpected gift it has been to me to be able to come back to my hometown and teach some of the children of the friends I grew up with! Madison is a special place, and I hope you and your child find that to be true this year.

School Supplies & Open House

The list of supplies your child will need is included. Please remember to label all of your child's supplies as noted on the list. **Open House will be held Tuesday, September 5th from 6-7:30pm, and it is very important that you BRING ALL OF YOUR CHILD'S SCHOOL SUPPLIES TO OPEN HOUSE.**

***Please tape a family photo on the inside cover of your child's pencil box. It's a great comfort to them to see you every time they open it! Or email a picture to me at bidzi@madisoncentralny.org and I'll print it off and tape it in for you.**

Water Bottles

Classrooms are equipped with bottle fillers, but do NOT have drinking fountains. All students will need a spill-proof water bottle that will be kept at their seats, and it may be filled with WATER ONLY. Please check that the bottle you choose does not leak, spill when it tips, and is not over-

sized. Finally, be sure to write your child's name on it with a permanent marker. Water bottles will come home every day for cleaning.

Snack/Birthdays

We have a mid-morning snack each day. You will be required to supply your child's snack each day. Please be sure your child brings in a HEALTHY snack (no candy, sweet treats, or junk food).

If your child chooses to celebrate his/her birthday with the class, store-bought snacks must be provided. Please do not send in homemade baked goods.

Parent Communication

Seesaw:

First grade will be communicating with parents using a platform called Seesaw. Within the first week of school we will be sending home information to get you started on the Seesaw Family App on your phones and signing you up so that you can view videos from your child at school, reach me privately when needed, and receive classroom announcements and important information.

Take Home Folders:

Each school day your child will bring a Take Home folder back and forth from school.

Please be sure to check this folder each evening after school for notes home or homework. We check the folders each morning, so any written communication to myself, the nurse, or the office can go in the folder and we'll make sure it gets to where it needs to go.

What CAN my child bring to school?

We have limited space in our cubbies, so please try to send only the following items in your child's backpack each day:

- Backpack, Take Home Folder, Lunch, Snack, Water Bottle
- Please keep toys and electronic devices at home.

How Can I Prepare My Child For First Grade?

Here are a few tips:

- Learn to tie shoes. If your child cannot tie yet, wear shoes that do not tie until he or she learns.
- Make sure your child knows how to open and close his/her water bottle and how to fill it independently.
- Label your child's supplies and fill their pencil box and backpack TOGETHER. When all the students get to school it helps so much if each one knows what he or she has.
- Get him/her excited for fun and learning!

Specials *Wear sneakers on PE days!				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
PE	PE Music	Library	PE	Library Art

Recess

In first grade we have outdoor recess most days all year long. Unless it is raining, icy, or dangerously cold students play outside daily. So as the weather changes please be sure your child is appropriately dressed to go outside for 30 minutes each day.

If you have any questions or concerns please don't hesitate to email me at bidzi@madisoncentralny.org. Enjoy the rest of your summer and see you in September!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Idzi 😊