

Welcome to * FIRST GRADE *

August 2023

Dear 1st Grade Families,

My name is **Lindsay Murphy** and I will be your child's 1st Grade teacher for the 2023-2024 school year at Madison! Here is a little bit about myself. I grew up right outside of Syracuse and now I currently reside in Clinton with my husband and 2 kids.. I always knew that I wanted to be an elementary teacher so I went on to SUNY Cortland to earn a degree in Early Childhood and Childhood Education. From there, I went to the College of Saint Rose to earn a masters in Literacy (Birth - 6th Grade). I have been teaching at Madison since the Fall of 2010. I started out as a reading specialist for the first 8 years before I taught Kindergarten for 2 years and now this will be my 4th year in 1st grade!

Supply List

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

Open House will be held on **Tuesday, September 5th from 6:00 - 7:30 pm**. My room is the first classroom on the right hand side right next to the principal's office. **Please bring your child's 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 and I'll print it off and tape it in for you. lmurphy@madisoncentralny.org**

Water Bottles

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. We do not have drinking fountains in our classrooms anymore.

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. Home-made treats/cupcakes, for example, are no longer allowed.

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.
- 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 Library	Art	PE	Music Library

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 20-30 minutes. During winter months, your child will be expected to dress himself in 5 minutes to get ready to go out. I share this now, because it may take some practice so you may want to plan ahead. Thank you in advance for your help!

I am so excited to return to school and see all your kiddos! Feel free to email me with any questions! Enjoy the rest of your summer!

Sincerely,
Lindsay Murphy
lmurphy@madisoncentralny.org