

August 1, 2023

Hello!!

I hope you are happy, HEALTHY, and having a relaxing summer filled with adventures...

I wanted to take a moment to introduce myself and tell you a few things about 1st grade. My name is Catherine Buckley, and I will be your 1st grade teacher. I live in nearby Longwood with my husband and two delightful children, Madeline and Noah. We also have three adorable cats (my favorite kind of pet), named Tiger and Ziggy. Do you have a pet?

I love teaching--especially 1st graders 🥰 and I'm excited to be your teacher this year. I have been teaching for over fifteen years, and have been blessed to teach at WLE for many of them. When I'm not at school, I spend time with my family. My favorite past-time is being with my family, gardening, exercising, learning the piano, and learning.

Boy, do I love reading--do you? Our classroom will be the kind of place where each of us has the chance to read books we choose, and we'll get to talk a lot about what we're reading. I hope you like to talk, because we'll be doing so much of that in this class. Have you been reading over the summer (of course you have)? What is your favorite book? Which do you prefer more--informational books or stories? Becoming a better reader is hard work--and we will work hard at it--together! It will be soooo worth it.

In 1st grade, we will continue to grow in our understanding of math by solving problems, working with partners, and sharing our thinking out loud (yes, more talking!) Math centers, simple math games, and math tools will all play a part in helping us make sense of math. Do you like math? What's your favorite thing to learn to do in school?

As always, it will be very important for you to do your best work and thinking every day. You will be encouraged to try very hard to do something on your own, but you'll also be encouraged to ask for help (and give help) when needed. Learning is the best when we figure things out together.

I will see you soon. In the meantime, ENJOY what's left of summer!! I have a feeling this year is going to be the best one yet!! I can't wait for OUR 1st grade adventures to begin...

Catherine Buckley

****Refer to Supply List for 1st Graders****

Below are a few additional items each student will need:

2 plastic folders (any color) pockets only

small toys/prizes/novelties to add to our class **treasure box** (earn 25 stickers and you can choose a prize!)

One package of **skinny** dry erase markers please!