



August 2026

Dear Fabulous First Grade Families,

Welcome! We hope that you are having an amazing summer and creating wonderful memories together. As we approach the start of school, we are looking forward to a fantastic year in first grade.

First grade will be a year of growth for your child. Your child will progress at his or her own rate, acquiring skills as he or she is developmentally ready. Together, we will embrace and celebrate all of the successful moments and gains that each child makes. In addition, maintaining each child's self-esteem while he or she is developing skills is a top priority. We want everyone to continue to enjoy school, love learning, to be happy and to feel proud! It will be a fun and memorable year.

Please find a questionnaire attached for each of you to complete. This questionnaire is designed to allow us to learn a little more about each child in our class as the school year begins. It will help us focus on specific areas, alert us to sensitivities or needs, and allow us to assess and enrich strengths. We appreciate your help and honesty with this questionnaire. Please send it in your child's folder on the first day of school. If you prefer to email it to your child's teacher, that is great as well. Thank you!

A detailed letter will come home on the first day of school listing the times for our lunch, snack, and special area classes. Please be sure to check the virtual backpack on the school home page for important information throughout the year.

If your child does not bring lunch from home, he or she may buy lunch in the cafeteria. Each child has a student identification number that will remain his or her own throughout their academic careers. If you do not know it, we can provide it for you. It is best to commit it to memory, if possible, for both you and your child. You are welcome to go online to add funds to your child's lunch account at myschoolbucks.com or send in cash or check in a sealed envelope for that day's lunch.

The children will have snack daily for approximately fifteen minutes. Please send in a healthy snack and water bottle each day. We may have Physical Education on the first day of school, so please have your child dress accordingly. We will notify you of the schedule for our special area classes in the letter that comes home on our first day of school.

Lastly, when time permits, please refer to the supply list on the district's website.

The hard plastic pencil box should only contain 3 sharpened pencils, 2 glue sticks, 2 dry erase markers, 1 highlighter, scissors labeled with your child's name and 1 box of crayons (it is often easiest to empty the crayons into the supply box). All other supplies should be sent in on the days below and will be stored in bins for each child so that we can replenish supplies as needed throughout the school year. Please send the supplies based on the following schedule:

Wednesday (9/2)- 1 sturdy bottom pocket folder labeled with your child's name (this folder will travel to/from school each day), hard plastic pencil box with contents listed above, Play-doh containers and headphones in a Ziploc bag labeled with your child's first and last name.

Thursday (9/3)- remaining pencils, glue sticks and liquid glue, crayons and notebook

Friday (9/4)- remaining dry erase markers, markers and colored pencils

Tuesday (9/8)- paint pallet labeled with your child's name, wipes, paper towels and tissues

We are very excited to meet your children and look forward to an incredible year together. Please complete the information sheet that is included with this letter and send it back to school in your child's folder on the first day of school. Also, we kindly ask your child to complete the summer activity sheet that you will find included with this letter. This activity will help the students to get to know one another and begin to establish our classroom families as we share our summer adventures.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher. The telephone number at school is 791-4300. You may also email us at any time.

Allison Giannusa	agiannus@portjeffschools.org
Laura Kelly	lkelly@portjeffschools.org
Katie Mauro	kmauro@portjeffschools.org
Miegan Rowett	mrowett@portjeffschools.org

Thank you for sharing your children with us. We know that we will have a memorable year together and can't wait to meet your amazing children!

Yours truly,
The First Grade Team



Getting to know YOUR WHOLE WORLD



As a teacher, I understand that every single child in my classroom is someone's whole world. No one loves or knows your child the way that you do so I am asking you to help me learn more about your child. This information will help me to meet the needs of your child, plan engaging activities, and make this year successful.

Please answer each question and return this packet to me. I look forward to learning more about what makes your child special and working with you this year!

Child's Name _____

Does your child have a nickname that he/she prefers? What would your child like to be called at school? _____

Does your child have any siblings? Please include names/ages below.

Does your child have any pets? Please include the type of pet and name below.

How would you describe your child's personality?

What does your child like to do outside of school?

What does your child like to learn about?

What are your child's strengths?

What motivates your child?

Does your child have any allergies? _____

What language is your child speaking at home? _____

Do you have any concerns or does your child have any fears that I should be aware of?

What would you like your child to gain from his/her first grade experience?

Does your child currently receive any support services such as Speech, Counseling, Occupational Therapy or Physical Therapy or have they received these services in the past?

Will your child be picked up from school or will he/she take a bus home? If your child will be riding a bus, please indicate the bus letter your child will ride home.

Thank you again for your assistance providing me with this information. If there is anything else that you would like to share, please let me know. ☺



Preferred Contact Information:

Parent Name _____

Preferred Phone Number _____

Preferred Email Address _____

Parent Name _____

Preferred Phone Number _____

Preferred Email Address _____



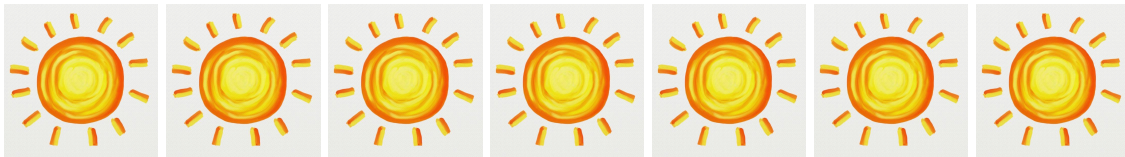


Dear Friends,

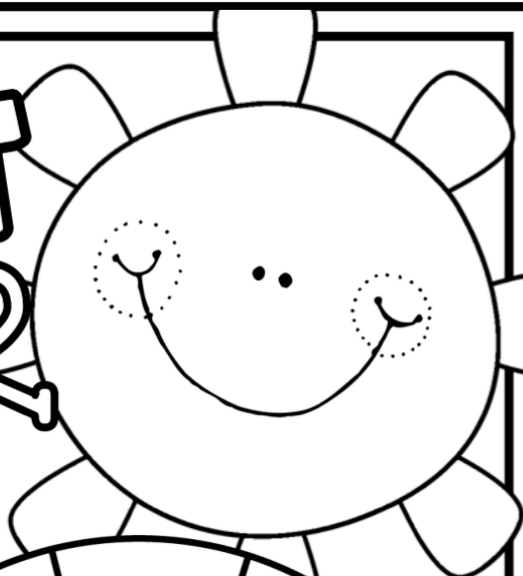
Please complete the *All About My Summer* activity sheet that is included with this letter. You can include photographs of your family, drawings or words to describe your summer adventures. We will be sharing them with one another and displaying them in school for all to see. Be creative and have fun! Please write your name on the back of your wonderful work, too. We are so excited to welcome you into our classrooms and to hear about the special memories that you created this summer.

Yours truly,

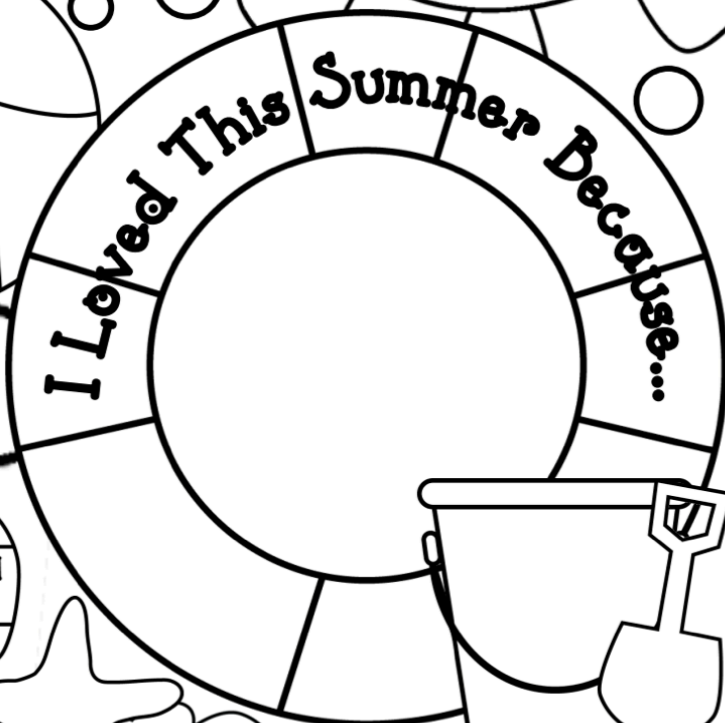
The First Grade Teachers



All about SUMMER



My Favorite
Water Activity Was...

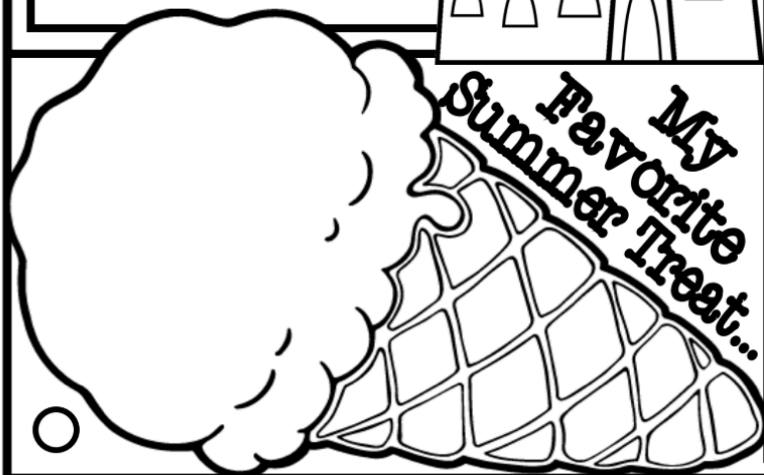


SUNTAN
LOTION

This Summer I Made...



My
Favorite
Summer Treat...



I Traveled To...

