

Dear Parents and 1<sup>st</sup> graders-

Happy New Year!!! Starting the New Year in August always made more sense to me than in January. We are all about to start on a great adventure of learning and fun called 1<sup>st</sup> grade. I know that Mrs. Lusignan has prepared all of you for the challenges of the new school year. Not only did you learn about letters and numbers and how wonderful God is, you were learning how to behave like big boys and girls. I look forward to seeing how much each of you has changed over the summer. I know that the move from kindergarten to first grade is a big one, but don't be scared-we are all in this together!

For those of you who do not know me, my name is Heather Ford. I have a BS in Elementary Education from MSU. I have taught in the public schools for about 6 years and at First United Methodist for 5 years. I was the director of the preschool at FUMC for several months, but decided that I needed to get back to my true love-teaching. Although my family and I have attended FUMC for 10 years, I was born and raised Catholic and attended 13 years of Catholic school. My daughter is in the new 7<sup>th</sup> grade class and Reese is in 3<sup>rd</sup> grade.

I have loved being at ACS the past 2 years and have learned so much more about 1<sup>st</sup> graders each year. I will be spending my summer gathering materials and reading all I can about what your child needs to know when they leave my room. Also, being able to help with a child's spiritual growth is a rare gift. I know that with your support we will all have a wonderfully successful 2010-2011 school year. During the "come and go", you will be getting more detailed information about how our classroom will run on a daily basis. Please feel free to contact me at any time this summer if you have any questions. My email is [heford@cableone.net](mailto:heford@cableone.net) and my cell number is 364-6740 (please call before 8:00pm). Know that you are all in my thoughts and prayers as we rest up for August.

In Christ,  
Heather Ford

