



WELCOME TO 1ST GRADE

Dear Parents and 1st Grader,

I hope everyone is having a great summer. I am thrilled to be with you all again for first grade and I can't wait to get started on our new adventure. I have had a great time preparing our classroom and planning a lot of fun activities for us.

Most of you know me from kindergarten last year, but for our new families, my name is Shaine Donoho. I graduated from MUW in 2006 with a degree in Elementary Education. Since graduation I have been a long term substitute for kindergarten and first grade, the assistant teacher for first grade, and this past year for kindergarten. My family and I have a special love for Annunciation because my son Christian has been a student here since kindergarten and will be in 8th grade this fall.

Starting first grade can seem a little scary. The schedule as well as the activities will be more structured than in kindergarten. I have high expectations for your learning as well as your behavior, but don't worry we will take it one step at a time together and help each other as we go forward.

As always, I used *Arts In The Classroom* and the *Multiple Intelligences* to help me plan all of our fun activities for the year and to help you become the great *Autonomous Learner* I know you can be.

Parents, as you know you will need 10 service hours each semester. I would love to have you help out in the room. There is always a need for someone to go over flash cards, help at a center, or read to students. If this does not fit with your schedule, never fear! There are plenty of things you can do at home or in other areas of the school.

Annunciation really is more than just a school. Your children see you volunteering your precious time and they begin to understand that their education is an important part of your family life. And I speak from experience when I say that before you know it, the other parents, students, teachers, and staff have become so much a part of your family that you never want to leave.

Keep working on your sight words and numbers and enjoy the rest of your summer. Before you know it you will be back with your friends ready to start a great New Year!

See you soon,
Mrs. Donoho