

John T. Pirie Fine Arts & Academic Center  
650 E. 85<sup>th</sup> Street  
Chicago, IL 60619

September 6, 2016

Dear Parents,

Welcome to First Grade! My name is **Ms. Matthews**. Just as I am eager to get to know your child I'm sure you are probably curious about me as well. I graduated from the Chicago State University with a degree in Elementary Education. I have a Master's Degree in Curriculum and Instruction and a Type 75(certification in administration). I've taught a total of 30 years.

I hope you are ready for an exciting and productive school year! Here are a few things you can do to ensure that your first grader is prepared for the new school year. Have your child read and write every day; the more they practice, the better their skills will develop.

This is a new and exciting time for you and your child. By working together we can make it a happy and successful school year. I have included some helpful information that will help ensure a smooth transition into the school year. Please read all the following information and feel free to contact me with any questions.

#### **Attendance**

Please be sure that your child is on time to school every day unless he/she is sick. First Grade is a continuous experience with each day's learning built on the day before. Missing school will not benefit your child's learning experiences. However, if your child is absent for any reason, missing assignments will be on the child's desk the following day or in their mailbox. If your child must be absent, be sure to call the school and also send a note of explanation each time he/she is absent. Without proper documentation your child's absence will be considered as unexcused.

<b><u>School Supply List</u></b>	2 packs of Wide-Ruled Notebook paper
1 book bag (labeled with first and last name)	2- Index Cards, 3x5, Ruled
3- folders (plastic)	2- Boxes of colored pencils
36 <i>sharpened</i> #2 pencils	2- 70 sheet Wide Ruled Notebooks
3 Glue <b>sticks</b>	3 boxes of Kleenex
2 boxes of crayons	1 roll of paper towels
1 box of markers	1 pencil case (not the hard boxed ones)
Headphones for computers (Sold at Target & Walmart)	1- 8 oz. bottles of Liquid Hand Sanitizer
1- 8 oz. bottles of Liquid Hand Soap	2- Composition notebooks (if possible Wide Ruled)
2 boxes of Zip Lock Bags (1 gallon and 1 sandwich size)	1 pair of scissors
Pencil sharpener	3 containers of Clorox Wipes
2 packs of White Copy Paper	

Sincerely,  
Ms. Matthews