Welcome to First Grade!

First grade is so much fun! Your child will make lots of new friends and learn many new things. We will play games, read books and poems, and we will write every day. We will also be counting, learning numbers, adding, subtracting and much more. First grade is an exciting time as your child will learn new skills that will help him/her throughout his/her life. I am looking forward to a very exciting and productive year. I will work every day to make learning fun for your child. However, I need your help to make this year a success. I believe that you and I are a team working together to help your child develop socially and academically. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns regarding your child. I know if we work together and communicate, your child will have a very successful year!

Remind

Remind is a free, safe, and simple messaging tool that helps teachers share important updates and reminders with students and parents. To receive messages via text, text **@saseverett** to **81010.** You can opt-out of messages anytime by replying, unsubscribe @7740af. If you’re having trouble using 81010, try texting @saseverett to (857) 233-0373.

Classroom subjects consist of Religion, Language Arts,
Math, Science, & Social Studies.

**Curriculum Outline**

**Religion**

In the Sadlier We Believe religion program, students will learn about the Catholic faith, celebrating mass, praying every day, showing love and respect to others and becoming disciples by sharing their faith with others. The main focus in our classroom is to treat others the way they want to be treated.

**Language Arts**

Superkids Reading Program is used in first grade Last year, your child was introduced to 13 Superkids and one super dog. This year the Superkids will be back to help your child continue his/her journey through first grade. If your child did not have this program last year, don't worry, we will begin our school year by reviewing what was taught last year to help any new students get to know the Superkids.

Reading is taught using whole language instruction. Phonemic awareness, phonics, spelling, comprehension, vocabulary, grammar, fluency and writing are taught throughout this program. In Phonics, students’ progress from reading words by blending individual sounds to reading words by looking at groups of letters. In order to become mature independent readers, they are taught that every word they decode should sound right and make sense in the sentence it is in.

Spelling consists of two skills: encoding and memorizing. First children are taught to encode words they can decode. Students hear a word, see it, say it, and finally write it. Students in first grade are required to memorize some of the sight words. At the first-grade level students apply comprehension skills to longer, more complex stories than in kindergarten. The goal is for children to understand that reading is not just decoding words correctly, but comprehending the meaning of those words.

The goal in vocabulary is for students to learn how to use context clues and picture clues, to figure out the meaning of words they read. Vocabulary instruction also gives students a richer sense of the relationship among words and encourages their interest and enjoyment in words.

In grammar, nouns, pronouns, conjunctions, verbs, and adjectives are taught. Students also learn how to punctuate and capitalize letters in sentences. The goal is for children to use their knowledge of grammar usage and mechanics to aid their comprehension and help express their ideas when writing.

The goal for fluency is for children to read words correctly at an appropriate rate and with natural expression that conveys the meaning of the word. In writing students produce a variety of writing products. The goal is for students to keep developing their writing so that they are able to express more of their ideas clearly and thoughtfully. By the end of first grade proficient writers should be able to write five to seven sentences that stay on topic.

**Math**

Grade one math uses the Sadlier-Oxford Progress in Mathematics. Students are developing and understanding addition and subtraction within twenty. Students are also developing and understanding whole number relationships and value. Graphing, geometry, money, time, measurement, fractions and probability are also concepts taught in first grade. Our book is broken down into 12 chapters. (Chapters are not taught in this order)

**Chapter 1 - Numbers, Number Words, And Ordinal Numbers
Chapter 2- Addition Strategies and facts to 12
Chapter 3 Subtraction Strategies and Facts to 12
Chapter 4- Data and Graphs
Chapter 5- Place value to 100
Chapter 6- Extending Addition and Subtraction Facts
Chapter 7- Geometry
Chapter 8- Money and Time
Chapter 9- Measurement
Chapter 10- Addition: Two-Digit Numbers
Chapter 11- Subtraction: Two-Digit Numbers
Chapter 12 Fractions and Probability**

**Science**

In Science, grade one will learn how to describe the life stages of human beings, students will observe tress, explores sunlight, water and soil, investigate animals and their habitats, discover what is inside and outside of their bodies, and examine the characteristics and life styles of insects.

**Social Studies**

In Social Studies a variety of topics are covered. The calendar is reviewed each day to reinforce the concepts of days of week, months of the year, and seasons. Children also listen to non- fiction and folktales from around the world. Students learn about national holidays, symbols relating to the United States, and historical figures Students also study concepts in geography and economics. Learning about the diversity and traditions of others is also taught at this level.

**Behavior Chart**

**If a student comes to school on time, he/she will be given a penny at the start of the day.**

**All students will begin their day on** Outstanding. **Throughout the day, student’s behavior will be evaluated. If a child has to be spoken to he/she will the move his/her name down. Any student on orange or red at the end of the day will give me back the penny (play money) On Fridays the money can be used to shop at our class store.**

**Helpful Hints**

Please make sure your child gets plenty of rest and has a good breakfast! This will ensure you that your child will be able to work to his/her own potential every day in the classroom.

Have your child bring a snack every day. If your child would like to order lunch, the cost is $2.00 which can be sent in a zip lock baggie and placed in his/her green folder. Milk is $O.50. After September 29th, no drinks are allowed at snack time.

Praise your child for doing well and working to the best of his/her ability. Check over your child’s work folders. Go over any mistakes with them. To reinforce what we are learning in school, read and write with your child each night.
Practice tying shoes!

**Birthdays**
If it is your child’s birthday, he/she is able to have a N.U.T. Day. If your child’s birthday is on a weekend, he/she can have a N.U.T day on a Monday or Friday. Due to issues with allergies, students are no longer able to bring cupcakes or cookies to school. Please do not give your child invitations to pass out in the schoolyard or in class, unless you are going to invite the entire class.

**Attendance/Tardiness**

Attendance is mandatory, and absences should be kept to a minimum. If your child is going to be out, please call the school office in the morning. Also, a note is required stating why he or she is absent and send it to school the next day. Make-up work will be given when your child returns to school. Our school day begins at 8:00 am and ends at 2:10pm. If you are unable to pick your child up on time, **PLEASE CALL THE OFFICE** so he/she can be added to the After-School Program list. Remember good attendance and proper behavior is essential for each child’s success.

Remind is the BEST way to contact me. However, please feel free to contact me any time at school. You can leave a message and I will return your call as soon as possible.
617-389-2448

You can also e-mail me at **kpalladino@saseverett.com**