

Welcome back to school, and welcome to first grade! Here's a peek at what we'll be learning in September:

We will spend the bulk of this month learning the routines and building our classroom community. In our classroom, we "go slow to go fast". This means that we will learn and practice skills and procedures often this month, so that your children will be comfortable in our classroom and with each other. Once they've learned our routines and the expected way to use materials, they'll be ready to access the curriculum and learn. This is important work!

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If you don't already, you should establish a time each day when you and your child can read together. You may listen to your child as well as read to him or her. This is an excellent way to build excitement about reading and for you to model fluent reading. Homework this year (to begin later) will include daily reading.

I will talk more about our Responsive Classroom approach, this beginning of the year work, and homework this on Back to School Night.

Communication

If you have information that you need to pass along to me, please write a note or send me an email instead of trying to speak with me during the drop off time. The morning routine is very important, and I want to give the children my full attention. Please don't hesitate to contact me via email at: jfrench@arlington.k12.ma.us

Have you shared your contact information with me, yet? I have a class email list set up, and I try to communicate electronically as much as possible. Please make sure to email me with your preferred email address so I can add you to our class list!

<u>Important Dates in September</u>

September 5th: Labor Day, No School

September 6th: First Day of School!September 6, 13, 20, 27:

Early Release, 1:00 p.m. dismissal (lunch will be served)

September 22nd: Back to School Night (parent only

event-more info to come)