



August 27, 2012

Dear Parents/Guardians:

Welcome back! I hope you all enjoyed your summer and are ready to begin a new and exciting school year. I have been very busy creating a fun and educational learning environment for your children.

This will be my second year teaching at the Cherry Hill School and I would like to take a moment and tell you about myself. My degrees include a Bachelor Degree of Science with a major in Elementary Education and a Master Degree of Science in Educational Technology. I have had wonderful experiences teaching first grade for 5 years in Englewood, NJ and had the pleasure of teaching first grade at the Cherry Hill School last year. Now I am looking forward to extending those wonderful learning experiences to my new students this year.

The first day of school is Tuesday, September 5<sup>th</sup>. Here are some reminders to help the first day go smoothly:

1. The students will line up outside where the Cherry Hill School and the New Bridge Center meet, and I will be holding a sign with my name to greet them there.
2. Please pack a lunch and healthy snack, separated by two bags so the students do not eat their lunch at snack time by mistake.
3. Be sure to pack all the supplies in your child's backpack, but do not worry about labeling their names on anything because the supplies will be communally shared in our class.
4. Please do not use any backpacks with wheels, as they do not fit into our cubbies.
5. The students will be dismissed at 3:00, at the same drop off area.

This first week is all about getting to know each other and understanding the classroom routine. I believe it is very important to get to know each student and their individual needs, so to help me better understand your child I have included a student information sheet for you to complete. Please take some time and share any information and/or concerns about your child that may help me provide the best learning environment for them. I know this may take some time, but I would appreciate it if you could send it to class with your child by Friday, September 16.

I have planned many interesting and challenging activities and lessons to help promote your child's success in the first grade. I will explain all other areas of my classroom and work in more detail on Back to School Night, which is Tuesday, September 11<sup>th</sup>, so please try your best to attend.

If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to email me at [richardsd@riveredgeschools.org](mailto:richardsd@riveredgeschools.org)

You may also find extra information and updates about our class on the class website I've created at <http://msrichards123.weebly.com/>, although most information won't be posted until after school begins. I can't wait to meet all of you and begin another wonderful year!

Sincerely,

Ms.Richards