

September 9, 2016

Dear P.S. 39 Families,

Welcome to Class 1-108! I am so excited about the upcoming year! I hope this letter will help you learn more about me, as well as provide you with some beneficial information to ensure that this year will be a successful one.

I am thrilled to begin my 20th year of teaching at P.S. 39. I feel so blessed to have had the opportunity to launch my career in such a remarkable building. P.S. 39 is more than just my workplace- it's my home. I started out teaching kindergarten for one year and then taught third grade for 6 years. Although I enjoyed those grades and gained valuable experience, first grade is where my heart is. I have been teaching first grade for the past 12 years and could not be happier. I love my job and I'm passionate about what I do each day. Although I have been teaching for many years, I approach each new school year with the same devotion as my first.

First grade is a very special time in your child's school career. It is a time to experience important transitions and acquire new skills. I look forward to guiding your children through new explorations and discoveries. The focus these first few weeks will be to establish routines and build a sense of community in the classroom.

In order to get to know your child better, I am asking for your help. At your discretion, I invite you to write me a letter about your son/daughter (optional). Feel free to include his/her hobbies, interests, likes, dislikes, strengths/challenges, or any other information you feel would be relevant. This information will help me get to know your child as a student and as an individual.

Please note that I **greatly** encourage parent communication. If you have any questions or concerns, don't hesitate to contact me. I have enclosed a copy of my prep schedule (my prep period is when the children are with another teacher). You can reach me by phone at the school during one of those periods. If you are unable to call during my prep, simply leave a message with the office or write me a note and enclose it in your child's homework folder. I will make every effort to get back to you as soon as possible. You can also email me anytime. My email address is PPolverino@ps39.org.

I am happy to report that Parent Engagement time will continue to be incorporated into my school day on Tuesdays from 2:45- 3:25. I will use this time to communicate with families (face to face meetings, telephone conversations, and written correspondence). Please feel free to schedule an appointment or phone conference regarding any questions or concerns you may have.

Our class will line up in the 8th Street yard each day and be dismissed from the rear left 8th Street yard. First graders will have lunch and recess from 11:04-11:58. To avoid any confusion, please label all lunch bags with your child's name and class.

It is strongly suggested that all students in grades Pre-K-5 wear sneakers to school daily, not just on gym days. This will help ensure your child's safety during outdoor play or any other physical activity.

Since we have limited classroom space, please make sure your child brings only necessities to school. Personal notebooks, stuffed animals, toys, and electronic devices should remain at home. Also, since we share supplies as a community, your child does not need a pencil case, personal pencils, sharpeners, erasers, etc. Everything they need will always be accessible throughout the classroom.

Stay tuned for information regarding homework and homework routines in the upcoming days. Please make sure your child returns the enclosed folder daily.

Curriculum Night is scheduled for Thursday, September 22nd. This time will give me an opportunity to guide you through the first grade curriculum.

Please read and fill out the enclosed information sheets. All necessary paperwork should be returned to school by Wednesday, September 14th.

I truly look forward to working with your children. It will be my joy and privilege to watch them grow and blossom this school year.

Thank You,
Phyllis Polverino

Prep Schedule

Monday:

Gym (period 3) 10:10-11:04

Science (period 6) 12:52-1:46

Tuesday:

Gym (period 5) 11:58-12:52

Wednesday:

Gym (period 3) 10:10-11:04

Thursday:

Art (period 2) 9:16-10:10

Friday:

Gym (period 5) 11:58-12:52

