

Stephen Decatur Elementary School
3500 Academy Road
Philadelphia, Pa 19154
215-400-3050

June 4, 2019

Dear Incoming First Graders and Parents,

Welcome to First Grade! We are looking forward to having you in our classes! The best ways to get ready for First Grade are to:

- Practice the First Grade sight words
- Have someone read to you daily
- Practice great penmanship - Use capital and lowercase letters appropriately
- Practice your math skills - knowing your math facts to 10 or even 20 would give you a great head start. Check out Xtramath.org to practice for free!

We understand that you will need your parents to help you read some of the pages and to help you with some of the activities. You will see words that you cannot read yet. We want you to understand the meaning of the words, but we do not expect you to be able to read or spell all of the words just yet. There are also bonus activities included for each summer month. You are not required to do these activities, but it is strongly encouraged. We are sure that you and your family will have fun with the projects and activities!

Our goal is that you have an enjoyable summer, while also continuing to learn and preparing yourself for First Grade. Our official start date together will be September 3, 2019.

This summer, don't forget to play outside, practice tying your shoes, and soak up the summer vacation! We look forward to meeting all of you and spending the 2019-2020 academic year together.

Sincerely,

Miss Shaw Rm. 100
Ms. Stiles Rm. 101
Ms. Rivera Rm. 102

Incoming 1st Grade Summer Reading Requirements

Please read to someone, or have someone read to you as often as possible. Mark a smiley face on the dates that you listen to a story. Mark a star on the dates when **YOU** read to someone. We want to see **at least three listens and three reads each month.**

During the months of June, July and August, you must write 9 journal entries total. Your journal entries can be about anything, but they should include a colorful picture and at least 3 neatly written sentences. Please use one of your first grade primary composition journals from the supply list to complete your journal entries. Please bring the primary journal with the completed journal entries to school on the first day. This book will be used more throughout the school year for different writing activities.

Parents, please help your child with their journal writing. You can do this by asking your child to make the sounds that they hear in each word, and have them write down the letter that makes those sounds. (E.g. a child may write the letters dans for dance) This is called phonetic spelling and if they can do this, they are on the right track to writing success!

This assignment **MUST** be turned in during the first week of school in order to earn a prize. This assignment will also be used as your child's first reading and writing grade.

Students, please ask an adult to help you learn how to tie your shoes this summer! It will get easier each time you practice.

Have a great summer!

June 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2	3	4 School's OUT! Happy Summer!	5	6	7	8
9	10 Practice tying your shoes!	11	12 Practice your math addition facts within 10.	13	14 Study the first grade sight words!	15
16	17 Keep practicing tying your shoes	18	19 Practice your math subtraction facts within 10.	20	21 Study the first grade sight words!	22
23	24 Practice tying those shoes!	25	26 Practice your math addition facts within 10.	27	28 Study the first grade sight words!	29
30	Notes: Don't forget to read at least 3 books this month. You should have at least 3 journal entries by the end of the month. You can write about whatever you want, but here are some ideas: What's your favorite ice cream flavor and why? Who is your favorite Superhero or Princess and why? What was your favorite book that you read this month?					

July 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Practice tying your shoes!	2	3 Practice your math addition facts within 10.	4	5 Study the first grade sight words!	6
7	8 Keep practicing tying your shoes.	9	10 Practice your math subtraction facts within 10.	11	12 Study the first grade sight words!	13
14	15 Practice tying your shoes! It should be getting easier.	16	17 Practice your math addition facts within 10.	18	19 Study the first grade sight words!	20
21	22 Practice tying your shoes!	23	24 Practice your math subtraction facts within 10.	25	26 Study the first grade sight words!	27
28	29 Keep practicing tying your shoes.	30	31	Notes: Don't forget to read at least 3 books this month. You should have at least 6 journal entries by the end of the month. You can write about whatever you want, but here are some ideas: What's something fun you did this summer? What was your favorite book from this month? If you could have any animal for a pet, what would you pick?		

August 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2 Study the first grade sight words!	3
4	5 Keep practicing tying your shoes.	6	7 Practice your math addition facts within 10.	8	9 Study the first grade sight words!	10
11	12 Are you a shoe tying expert yet?	13	14 Practice your math subtraction facts within 10.	15	16 Study the first grade sight words!	17
18	19 Practice tying those shoes!	20	21 Practice your math addition facts within 10.	22	23 Study the first grade sight words!	24
25	26 Practice tying your shoes!	27	28 Practice your math subtraction facts within 10.	29	30	31

Notes:

Don't forget to read at least 3 books this month. You should have at least 3 more journal entries by the end of the month. You can write about whatever you want, but here are some ideas: What's your favorite color? Why? If you had a superpower what would it be? What do you want to learn in first grade?

Dolch Sight Words First Grade

after
again
an
any
as
ask
by
could
every
fly
from
give
going
had
has
her
him
his
how
just
know
let
live

may
of
old
once
open
over
put
round
some
stop
take
thank
them
then
think
walk
were
when

*Bonus Words

because	should
friend	why
mother	would

Stephen Decatur First Grade Summer Reading List Suggestions

- Clifford Series by Norman Bridwell
- Henry and Mudge Series by Cynthia Rylant
- Magic Tree House Series by Mary Pope Osbourne
- Mr. Putter and Tabby Series by Cynthia Rylant
- Biscuit Series : Alyssa Satin Capucilli
- Pete the Cat Series: James Dean
- Any titles by Denise Fleming
- Any titles by Frank Asch
- Any titles by Lois Ehlert
- Any titles by Ezra Jack Keats
- Capital Mysteries by Ron Roy
- A Chair for My Mother by Vera Williams
- Any titles by Jean Van Leeuwen
- Chicka Chicka Boom Boom by Bill Martin Jr.

* Your child may also sign into the School District portal to read and listen to books on the Book FLIX program. You may need your child's free library card #. To access this free program, follow these steps. 1) Go to www.philasd.org/login and login with the student information 2) Click the SchoolNet/ StudentNet icon 3) Scroll down to Power Library Resources on the left hand side and click the Power Library icon 4) Scroll down and click on the Power Kids link 5) Then click the GO arrow under "BookFLIX"

This summer we want you to keep reading! By the time you come back to school in September you should have read AT LEAST 9 books (3 books each month). Don't forget to mark the dates you read with a star on your Summer Project Calendar. Reading and listening to these books will help you get ready for first grade! You can even tell us which story was your favorite in one of your journal entries this summer. We hope you enjoy these titles and authors as much as we do!