



Welcome to the wonderful world of first grade! My name is Terri Campbell, and I will be your child's first grade teacher. I live in Union with my husband Marty. We have been married for 38 years. Our four children Tiffany, Zechariah, Samantha, and Matthew are grown and on their own. I have one wonderful grandson, Ethan. This will be my sixth year at St Vincent. I feel blest to be part of the St. Vincent family. I look forward to the opportunity to work with you through the joys and challenges of your child's first grade educational journey. I love first grade! 😊 First graders are so excited about learning and reading. Their excitement is contagious!

FAST DIRECT

***Please check my bulletin board and calendar on Fast Direct for weekly updates.** It will contain dates of tests, spelling words, and highlights of the week. My newsletter will appear on my bulletin board page no later than the end of day Friday. The calendar will list dates of tests.

PERSONAL BELONGINGS

Please put your child's name in coats, sweatshirts, backpacks, and water bottles. These items often get misplaced by younger children and labels make it easier to figure out the owner. Thank you!

SPECIAL CLASSES

- Special classes, we will have the first and second graders combined. Monday - Music/P.E. is 2:05 – 2:50 (Mr. Spann/Mr. Beste), Tuesday - Library/Typing is 12:15 – 1:10 (Mrs. Boenker), Wednesday – Music/P.E. is 2:05 – 2:50 (Mr. Spann/Mr. Beste) and Thursday is Stem 1:15 – 2:00 (Boenker), Friday – Art is 1:15 – 2:00 (Mr. Spann).

GRADES

Papers that are completed together in class are not graded. They are for practice and reinforcement. Students draw smiley faces on these papers to let you know we did them together. Tests are graded. They will come home to be signed and returned in the Wednesday Envelops.

HOMWORK

Homework is taken for a grade occasionally. It is important because it helps reinforce what has been learned in class and teaches responsibility. Homework is assigned each night, Monday through Thursday, and returned to school the following day. I expect students to do their best job on homework assignments. Parents are the key to encouraging a positive experience for their child. Please allow homework to be a priority at home, provide the necessary supplies, and a quiet homework environment. The students will turn in homework each morning. If students do not turn in their homework, they will stay in for recess in the office until finished. Please feel free to contact me if we need to make other arrangements for homework. The first week of school, your child will not be receiving homework. I do not give homework on Fridays because weekends are family time.

AR

St. Vincent participates in a fun online reading program called Accelerated Reader (AR). This program encourages students to read books, take comprehension quizzes online, and earn points for each quiz passed at 80% or above. There are three ways students can read AR books. One way is to have the book read to them (I will read to them at first until they are ready to read on their own.) Another way is for students to read the book with someone, and the last way is for students to read the book independently (This is our goal to achieve). They can choose AR books in our classroom library or check out AR books in the school library. You may also have AR books in your home library! Just go to www.arbookfind.com and follow the directions. You can also download a free app for finding the AR books called Points Scan. Both these book finders will tell you if a certain book is an AR book and if so, it will have the reading level. I will send home their reading level after they take the star test (which gives us their level). It is important to find a "Just Fit" book to read. Your child needs to be challenged but not discouraged if the book is too hard. Reading for AR is to help encourage them to enjoy reading. Students must read an AR book at least twice at the beginning of the year for comprehension before they can

take a quiz. They are reading for fluency for the first time. The second time for comprehension. AR books and decodable books may also be put on their reading logs.

READING LOGS

The students will bring home a reading log in the Wednesday envelopes. Your first one will be in this week's envelope. You may keep it at home to write down the books that are read. Several ways to do this: they read to you, or you read to them, or you read a page and they read a page, etc. The more the first graders hear someone read to them or they read, will make a huge difference. The reading logs will be turned in at the end of the month. They will receive a big fuzzy for that month's reading log.

BIRTHDAYS

Birthdays are special! Your child is welcome to bring a treat to share with the class. The treats need to be store bought.

They may also dress down that day.

SNACK

First graders can bring a healthy, easy to eat snack during **morning** recess. All students will be eating snacks outside as we did before Covid. Please mark containers. I will have a basket marked with first grade on it. They will be asked to put containers in the basket. Since they are not in the classroom paper clips or tape will not be provided if the snack is unfinished. Please plan accordingly. Morning Recess is from 10:00 - 10:15. Students are not allowed to share snacks due to allergy concerns.

DAILY FOLDER

Your child has a daily folder. We call it take home folder. One side is for papers that stay at home (Their precious work that you keep.) and the other side is stay at school. Example of stay at school: When we start spelling, the words are left in the stay at school side of their folder so they will have them to study every night at home and they will have them to study at school. Their homework is also kept in the stay at school side so that it is there in the morning for me to see.

BEHAVIOR RULE!

Rule #1 - Follow directions quickly!

Rule #2 - Do your personal best!

Rule #3 - KHFOOTY (Keep hands, feet, and other objects to yourself)

Rule #4 - Raise your hand for permission to speak!

Rule #5 - Keep your dear teacher happy.

Rule #6 - Active listener!

BEHAVIOR

I am a firm believer in positive reinforcement. The students will earn warm fuzzies (pom-poms) for positive behavior. They earn big fuzzies worth 5 and small fuzzies worth 1. Every two weeks on a Friday, they will learn to count by fives and ones. The fuzzies are turned in for reward coupons or small prizes. They may also choose to keep them for next time. They may like to save them for a reward worth more. Example of the rewards coupons: bring show and tell, wear socks in class, chew bubble gum (in our class only), double fuzzy day, etc. If they don't follow rules or use inappropriate behavior, they will lose fuzzies.

We also use "Brownie Point" for compliments given to the whole class for our behavior in the hall and specials. After we fill our cookie sheet with brownies, we will vote on our class reward (house slippers in class, bring in a stuffed animal, movie, popcorn, extra recess, etc.).

Classroom Jobs

1. **Line leader** - Leads our line.
2. **Door holder** - This person holds the door for specials, recess, etc.
3. **Electrician** - They turn the lights on and off for use of the smartboard and when leaving the room.
4. **Direction's director** - If a student didn't hear the direction from the teacher, they go directly to the "Direction Director" to find out the directions.
5. **Germ patrol** - This student gives a Clorox wipe or hand sanitizer with a paper towel to each student at the end of the day to wipe their desk and chair. They also give a friendly reminder to students who might forget to use hand sanitizer throughout the day.
6. **Scrap monster** - They look around the room to make sure everything is tidy. When they see someone's pencil or scrap paper on the floor, they let

that person know to clean up and they lose a fuzzy. If it is tidy, they receive a fuzzy.

7. **Cubby Inspector** - This student checks cubbies after the bell rings in the morning and before the dismissal bell. If anyone leaves anything on the floor, they owe a fuzzy for each item.

8. **Desk Inspector**-This student checks everyone's desk before the dismissal bell. If they it is neat, the inspector gives them a fuzzy.

9. **Caboose** - This person is always the last in line. They help me out by monitoring our line. They make sure everyone is safe and follows the rules. They will pick "The Secret Walker Stick". I place each of the student's names on a craft stick and place it in a cup. If the secret walker is quiet in the hallway, they get a big fuzzy. If they are not quiet, they lose a big fuzzy.

LIBRARY

Please be sure that your child's library books are sent back to school prior to each library check-out day. A suggestion is to keep the books in their backpack after reading them. Students will pick two books. One is an AR book and the other is a book of their choice. First grade has library on Tuesdays.



Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns throughout the year. I am looking forward to an amazing year with your children.

St Vincent phone number

636-433-2466

Fast Direct

I look forward to a wonderful year with your children!

Mrs. Campbell