



Dear Families,

These past few days getting to know the children have been wonderful! They are all so eager to learn and so enthusiastic about first grade. I have also enjoyed hearing all of their wonderful stories about their summer activities.

One of the things that the children are most excited about is our classroom library. They are all so interested in looking through all of the books and eager to take one home to share with a family member. Starting this week as we begin to launch Reading Workshop students will go book shopping in our classroom and borrow books to take home. Every week they will book shop for books on their level. These books will be used in the classroom and for your child to read at home. Learning to select "just right" books is a skill that develops over time. As your child reads his/her book at home, he/she may need more or less support than anticipated. As the year progresses, your child will get better at choosing appropriate books.

We put the books in plastic book baggies with their names on it. Please help your child to be responsible and bring back the book and bag **every day** so they can pick another one. I am extremely excited for your child to use these book baggies as it will give them an opportunity to practice reading on their level and apply skills and strategies learned in school. As your child becomes a stronger reader the amount and level of the books will vary. Please help your child record the title and author of the book in their *First Grade Reading Log*. The logs will be collected on Fridays to help us keep track of all the books your child is reading.

Thank you so much for your continued support and cooperation! Enjoy reading with your child!

Sincerely,
The First Grade Teachers