

Dear First Grade Families,

I could not be more excited about the upcoming school year! This will be my third year teaching first grade at Coffin Elementary. I just spent a week at Columbia University- Teacher's College in New York, at a conference about writer's workshop! It was such a blast and I cannot wait for the school year to start so that I can try out my new tricks and teach my colleagues all that I learned! First grade is truly where my passion lies and I am so lucky to be a part of Coffin School's community of learners (both teachers and students)!

To tell you a little bit about myself outside of the classroom:

I am a mother of two boys; My oldest, Brady, is going into second grade this year and my youngest, Colby, is in his last year of preschool before he enters kindergarten next fall. My husband, Ryan, is a police officer of almost 12+ years. My family and I love to be outdoors! We like to camp out in the backyard, go sailing, skiing, and snowboarding as a family. I also do a lot of running and hiking. I used to teach children how to sail their own sailboats (optimists) which is what got me interested in teaching in the first place ⁽²⁾. I now just teach private lessons and race on Casco Bay throughout the Summer/Fall months. I spent this summer getting settled into our new home in Yarmouth! I just received my Masters Degree in Teaching and Learning this past May so I am excited for a school year of no college courses tacked on!

As the beginning of the school year starts to unfold, a LOT of papers will be coming home in their "Home Connections" folder. Lots will be from our classroom but others will be from the school/district. Please sift through the paperwork carefully as some will require deeper attention, signatures, important dates, etc. Among the papers traveling home will be more information on what your child will be experiencing in first grade. Should you have questions before then, please don't hesitate to contact me. Also, please check out at classroom website which is on the Coffin School website. It is very much a work in progress but my goal is to have it complete before the start of school! Below is my school e-mail, classroom extension, and cell phone number. Family involvement is really important to me and I encourage any and all forms of communication that will support the success of your child's first grade year. I give my cell phone because I am frequently racing out of the classroom at the end of the day to pick up my own kiddos at school, after care, or sports. The mornings are usually the best time to reach me as I am to school by 7:30 most days.

<u>A few important dates:</u> Meet & Greet Night is August 27th from 5-6pm (all welcome), Information Night is Thursday, September 18th from 6:30-7:30pm (parents/guardians only), and our All School Open House is Thursday, October 2nd from 6-7pm (all welcome).

I can't wait to meet you all! I already recognize many of your names and faces from the hallways, which is making me even *more* excited. We are going to have a fabulous first grade year as we play learn and grow each and everyday. Please be sure to get the enclosed surveys back to school on either Meet & Greet Night or the first day of school O.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Martin 😊





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Cell: 650-7357