



August 14, 2023

Dear New First Grader,

Welcome to first grade! My name is Mrs. Ortman and I am going to be your first grade teacher this year. I have had a busy summer with my three girls - Elizabeth, Charlotte, and Claire, and Mr. Ortman. We spent a TON of time at our favorite pool (Tennaqua), and traveled to Nebraska for the Ortman family reunion, went to a couple of concerts, and spent some time with my moms and sisters in Indiana. Below you will see some picture of some of our summer fun. I am excited to get to tell you more about me and learn more about you!

Throughout the year you will be learning a lot of new things, including some new things about me. One of the coolest facts about me is that I was born in Paris, France, which means that I speak French too! I think that it is also really important for you to know that I LOVE books. In fact, this summer I read 10 books, bringing my total number of books read this year to 30! Not only do I like reading them myself, but I also like being read to, listening to other people read, and teaching kids to become better readers. We will be reading books that make us laugh out loud, animal fact books, wordless books, nonfiction books, poetry books, feel-good books, and many more.

Reading books also helps us learn new things. In first grade, we will learn about animal parents and their babies, famous heroes, sound, numbers, and patterns. Do you already know some facts about these things? We will also get to do some wacky science experiments, play new math games, and write our own stories!

I cannot wait to meet you at our first half-day of school on Wednesday, August 23rd! We are going to have the best year together. If you didn't order your school supplies through the PTO, please make sure to bring all of your supplies with you on the first day. It may be helpful to have them in a bag separate from your backpack. I will make sure to get them all organized for you after school on Wednesday.

I am looking forward to a year of fun and learning with you!!

With Lots of Love,
Mrs. Ortman



- Photos clockwise from bottom left to bottom right:
- * The girls went to their first concert - Big Time Rush.
 - * We horseback riding in Nebraska.
 - * Charlotte and Elizabeth came with me to the Ed Sheeran concert.
 - * What's better than eating ice cream and swimming?
 - * The girls went paddle boating with their cousin.
 - * Elizabeth (11), Charlotte (9), and Claire (6) in Saugatuk, Michigan.

SCHOOL PHONE 847.251.3252 EXT. 6140

EMAIL ORTMANNM@WILMETTE39.ORG