



Welcome to First Grade!

2024-2025 School Year

I am so excited to be your child's teacher this year! I know the number of paperwork you receive each year is overwhelming, so I have tried scaling my orientation information back to just the basics. **My main method of communication is through my email (jaime.thompson@sjs-amherst.org). I do not use other methods of communication, like Remind, for my classroom.**

Daily Schedule

7:30-7:35	Homeroom
7:35-8:05	Community Time
8:05-8:40	Religion
8:40-9:30 or 10:00	Specials (See Specials Schedule)
9:30 or 10:00- 11:15	Academics
11:15-11:45	Lunch
11:45-12:45	Academics
12:45-1:15	Recess
1:15-1:50	Academics
1:50-2:00	Pack Up
2:00-2:10	Community Time and Dismiss

Specials Schedule

Day 1

Library until 10



Day 2

Music until 9:30



Day 3

PE until 9:30 ; **Exploration**



Day 4

Art until 9:30



Day 5

STEM 9:30

*On your child's PE day, they will come to school in their gym uniform.

*On these days, the students will start in their special, then split the remaining 50 minutes between the special and small group time with the classroom teacher.

*On Day 3, students will also have exploration from 1:20-1:55

Online Programs

SeeSaw

- This is the learning module that is implemented for the younger grades instead of Google Classroom. The program is geared to be more child-friendly. We will practice how to use this program as a whole group before having independent work in class. I do NOT plan on assigning homework on SeeSaw.



XtraMath

- This free app will be used as needed to reinforce math facts skills. Students will receive a login in their Wednesday folder and are encouraged (not required) to practice at home.



Epic

- This free website has age and reading-level appropriate recommendations that can be customized to your child's interest. Teachers can track progress and assign a variety of books, videos, and more to grow your child's skills and grow his or her curiosity.



Dreamscapes

- This free website/app has age and level appropriate reading passages and ELA skills to practice in an online gaming format. Teachers can track progress and assign "missions" throughout the year to help students grow in their learning. Students also love the "battle" feature of the game.



Prodigy

- This free website is used to reinforce a variety of math skills; from basic facts to more specialized questions about measurement, time, and geometry. Students pick an avatar and go on “battles” with their creatures. To “attack” in battles, they must answer math questions correctly.



IXL

- This online program/app pulls information from your student’s MAP test scores to help each child reach his or her fullest potential. This program is used as additional practice in class or as an additional way to assess for mastery.