

First Grade Orientation

Mrs. Kalitzky's and Ms. Bauer's
First Grade Class



Oakland School

"Where Everybody is Somebody"

About Mrs. Kalitzky

This is my 15th year teaching. I am a looping teacher, which means I teach kindergarten and then first grade to mostly the same group of children. I have my Masters in Reading from ISU as well as my ELL certification. I am married with 4 beautiful children. My husband, A.J. works at State Farm. My youngest 3 children attend Benjamin Elementary in Unit 5 and my oldest is at Evans Junior High.




About Ms. Bauer

This student teaching experience is the last step I have before receiving my bachelors degree in early childhood education and an endorsement in special education at Illinois State University. I am very excited to be here at Oakland Elementary from now until the end of April.

I grew up in Princeton, IL which is a small town about an hour north of Bloomington Normal. My family consists of my parents, my younger sister who also attends ISU, and my younger brother who is a sophomore in high school. We also have two dogs Lola and Moe. In my free time, I enjoy spending time with my friends and family, shopping, and being outdoors. At ISU, I am involved with an educational fraternity Kappa Delta Epsilon and partners in reading.



A background image showing a variety of colorful markers and crayons scattered across the surface. The colors include red, blue, green, yellow, pink, and orange. The markers are in the foreground, while the crayons are more visible in the background.

Daily Schedule

Read Aloud

Calendar/Weather

Writing

Centers/Guided Reading

Lunch/Recess

Read Aloud

Word Play

Social Studies/Science

Math

Math Centers

Specials

Special Subject's Schedule

P.E. ~ Wednesday, Thursday, Friday

Music ~ Wednesday, Friday

Art ~ Monday

Learning Center ~ Tuesday



School Visitation

If you are going to visit our classroom please make sure that you contact me first and always stop at the office when you enter the building to get a visitor's pass.



Dismissal

If your child is not going home according to the normal plan, please notify me by note, e-mail, or call the office. It makes a big difference if you have a card with your child's name on it posted inside of your car for side-circle pick up.

Morning Procedures

Please make sure that your child arrives on time (8:55) and is prepared for the day. Students should arrive no earlier than 8:45 unless they are part of the YWCA program. If you are late to school, please have your child stop at the office to get a note from the secretary. Three late arrivals (tardies) will result in a detention.



Appointments/Illness

Please send a note or call the office if your child is sick. If you need to pick up your child early, please stop by the office to sign him/her out. Please wait in the lobby and one of the secretaries will have the child sent down to the office.



Lunch Options and Procedures

- Your child will make his/her lunch selection first thing every morning. The options in first grade include: hot lunch; salad; meat and cheese sandwich; grilled cheese sandwich; yogurt, cheese, and crackers; and sunbutter and jelly sandwich.
- Lunches can be purchased by the day, week, month, or year. **You can send cash or check made out to Oakland School Cafeteria in a sealed labeled envelope.** There is also an option (myschoolbucks.com) to purchase lunches online but be warned there is a 2.49 charge per charge to your credit card so sending a check is a good idea.

Snacks

We eat lunch at 11:30 and plan to have a snack everyday in the afternoons. We will send snack calendars home every month so you will know when to send a snack to school for the whole class. We have 22 students in our classroom.



Field Trips

We are hoping to take a few field trips this year! We are planning a trip to the Rader Pumpkin Patch on September 27th. The note is attached to your information tonight. We hope to also take a trip in the spring. If you would like to volunteer for any field trips this year please make sure to contact the office and fill out the necessary background check paperwork so that you can go with us.

A background image showing a collection of colorful markers in various colors like red, blue, green, yellow, and pink, scattered across the surface.

Room Parties

Room parents provide snacks and activities for holiday parties throughout the year. We have a room party in October, December and February! There will be an envelope going home soon asking for donations for our classroom party.

Book Orders

We will send home monthly book order forms with a note stating when the orders will be due. You can order books online (GP9PF) or send the form with a check made out to Scholastic to the teacher. We earn classroom books when you order, so we appreciate your support! September Scholastic orders are due on September 9th.



SCHOLASTIC

Birthdays

We welcome birthday treats but snacks must be easily served rather than ones that require cutting/slicing. **We are asking for no cupcakes and cakes this year.** There are many allergies in the school so treats must be store-bought with clearly labeled ingredients. Please make sure the food items do not contain peanuts or are from a factory that produces products with peanuts in them. School policy states that teachers cannot distribute birthday party invitations.



Homework

Homework calendars are due at the end of the month with a signature and any accompanying paperwork involved in the assignments. We will send the new homework calendar at the end of each month. Children who complete monthly homework calendars receive a reward!

Reading logs will also come home once a completed one is turned in. Please record your child reading 20 books/chapters a month. These logs are posted on our websites if you need a copy and children know where to find them in the room as well.

A background image showing a collection of colorful markers in various colors like red, blue, green, yellow, and pink, scattered across the surface. The markers are slightly out of focus, creating a soft, artistic backdrop for the text.

October Conferences

Please make sure to sign up
for a conference time
before leaving tonight!

Free Choice/ Fun Friday Centers

If your child makes it through each day of the week with a green clip or higher every day and completes class work throughout the week, they participate in free-choice centers on Friday afternoon.



Words Their Way

We are starting a new program called "Words Their Way." It is an individualized spelling program that allows students to learn to spell words that are at their ability level in a hands-on approach. Students will manipulate words and/or pictures into different categories.

In September I will give the students a spelling inventory that will help determine what spelling state they are performing at. From there, they will be working with word sorts that are at their ability level. Your child will bring home their sorts on Friday in their folders. We will not be taking weekly spelling tests on these word sorts. I will be giving students benchmark tests throughout the year.

Writing

We will learn to write narrative, persuasive, and informational paragraphs this year. We all write on the same very broad topic and follow a consistent routine each week.

- Monday, we organize ideas using a graphic organizer.
- Tuesday, we create a rough draft.
- Wednesday, the teacher writes a model paragraph on the SMART board.
- Thursday, each child writes an individual paragraph.
- Friday is free writing!

Right now we are providing the focus sentences and wrap-up sentences for them, but that will change soon!

Take Home Folders

Students will bring home all work and notes (unless they need to be sent home immediately) along with a newsletter every Friday in a plastic envelope. Please return the envelope to school the following school day, with a signed Okie Report inside!

Classroom Management



We are using a new system this year called "Clip Up/Clip Down." Every child will begin the day clipped onto the Ready to Learn spot. Children will be able to move up or down on the chart throughout the day. "Think About It" is the verbal warning section of PBIS, "Teacher's Choice" is the visual warning, and "Parent Contact" involves the child filling out a Thinking Spot Form that will go home that day.

We will send weekly Okie reports home to let you know about your child's behavior at school. Your support means a lot to us!

Okie Report



Name:

Week of:



<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday

	Always	Sometimes	Rarely
Follows directions:	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Participates in class activities:	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Completes class work:	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Works well with others:	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Good listener:	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Is respectful:	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Comments from home (optional):

Parent Signature X _____

We are using the same Okie Report this year. The students will color the box each day depending on what color they are on from the clip chart. On Friday the students will take it home in their Friday Folders and you will sign it and return it the next day.

H.O.O.T & Buckets

Children earn bucket slips for following school and classroom rules. If a teacher catches them doing something great they earn a bucket and it goes into the classroom bucket. At the end of the week, the teacher pulls out two buckets and those lucky winners get to choose a prize from the treasure bin.

Positive Reinforcement

Children who earn bucket slips put marbles in a classroom jar. When the marble jar is full, the class votes to do a special activity. Sometimes I put a whole handful of marbles in the jar when the whole class is doing an awesome job.

We also choose a child each morning to be Child of the Day. That child has special privileges throughout the day but must have had their clothespin clipped to the green (or above!) portion of the chart the day before.

Curriculum

Science- Next Generation Science Standards

- What is science?, What do scientist's do?, What do engineers do?
- Light and solar patterns
- Light, sound, and space communication
- Structures and behaviors in organisms



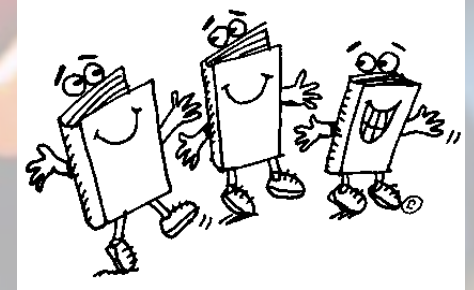
Curriculum cont.

Social Studies

1. Community Helpers
2. Mapping
3. Rules & Responsibilities
4. Famous People
5. Holidays
6. Economics
7. Life in the Past
8. Patriotic Symbols
9. Second Step



Curriculum cont.



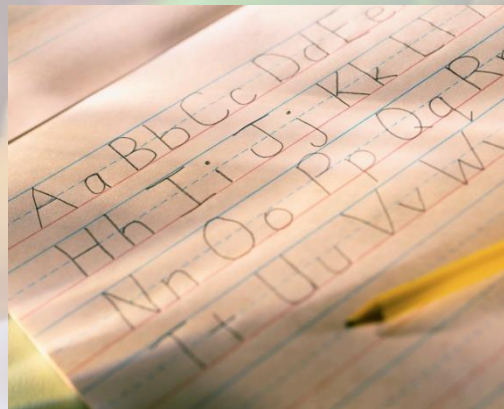
Reading

We listen to our students read individually on a regular basis and make decisions about the content of our Guided Reading lessons based upon strengths and weaknesses. Each child participates in a Guided Reading group and reads books appropriately leveled for his/her ability. All children also participate in whole-group language arts instruction. Please have your child read these guided reading books to an adult and keep them in a safe place to be read over and over.

Curriculum cont.

Writing

During our writing time we will work on grammar, punctuation, capitalization, and structure. We will learn to write narrative, expository, and persuasive texts throughout the year.



Curriculum cont.

Math

We will work on counting, number writing, number recognition, number ordering, graphing, patterning, sorting, more/fewer/same, addition, subtraction, part/part/whole, geometry, symmetry, fractions, story problems, time, money, weight/volume/length, fact families, estimation, place value, even/odd numbers, probability, composing/decomposing numbers, and counting by fives/tens.



- Check out our classroom website!



<https://kalitzkyd.weebly.com>

- Sign up for Bloomz to receive class updates.



Thank you for coming and please make sure to sign up for a conference time before you leave.

