



Dear Parents and Guardians,

Welcome to first grade! We are delighted to begin another exciting academic year at Young Diplomats Magnet Academy. First grade is an exciting time as children embark upon new adventures in learning. This year, your child will continue to learn more language and phonics skills in word study, reading, and writing as well as make new discoveries in math, science and social studies.

Expectations for ELA are that students should be reading at a level J by the end of first grade. Our reading program is titled Ready Gen, which is connected to our IB writing, social studies and science units. This year our first graders will be learning the skill of writing in two informational texts, two opinion pieces and two narratives.

Expectations for math is that students should be able to add and subtract within 20, represent and solve word problems, understand place value, measurement and geometry. At the beginning of each chapter you will receive math activities you can do at home with your child.

Our IB yearlong theme is titled *It Takes a Village*, where our students will realize as I grow and become a unique, important person, I can be a caring citizen and help others in my school, family and community. Listed below are our 6 Transdisciplinary Units of Study to give you an idea of the big themes our students will be working on this year. All homework projects will support these transdisciplinary units and will be graded.

- Unit 1 Sharing the Planet
- Unit 2 How We Organize Ourselves
- Unit 3 Where We Are in Place and Time
- Unit 4 How the World Works
- Unit 5 How We Express Ourselves
- Unit 6 Who We Are

Our school will be having Curriculum Night in September and Parent-teacher Conferences in November. Until then, if you have any questions or concerns please feel free to leave a message in the office or send a note with your child and we will contact you at our earliest convenience. We look forward to an exciting and productive year.

Sincerely,
The First Grade Team

