

## **PHILOSOPHY...**

I believe it is important to educate the whole child... socially, spiritually, personally, and academically. I work to create a stimulating learning atmosphere within the classroom that encourages curiosity, risk-taking, confidence, and acceptance. I believe that students should be actively engaged in meaningful learning experiences. By setting a good example and executing diverse, effective teaching methods, I assist in the shaping of values and positive work habits. I foster a safe, inviting learning environment, and strive to encourage, nurture, and guide my students in meeting the challenges of everyday life. I am in-tune with the individual needs of my students and utilize differentiated instruction methods across the curriculum. Experience has taught me that developing a strong home-school connection assists with helping children to reach their fullest potential. I hold my students to the highest of standards and motivate them to achieve their personal best. I work to instill in each child a life-long love for learning.

## **GRADING POLICY FOR GRADE 1...**

First grade uses the standards-based report card grading system. Students are graded using 1, 2, 3, and 4. The numbers represent the following:

- 1- No mastery of the standard; unable to complete the assignment without assistance
- 2- Some independent success of the standard; still needs some assistance to complete the task successfully
- 3- Has a clear understanding of the standard; able to complete the task with success independently
- 4- Has mastered the standard and is able to take the learning even further than the stated objective

Written homework is given Monday through Thursday. It is NOT graded using the 1-4 method, but rather is marked as handed in on time and complete. Homework is an added reinforcement tool for learning and should be completed under the guidance of an adult.