

Dear Families of Incoming First Graders:

Hello everyone, and welcome to first grade! I hope you are all enjoying your summer, and finding ways to stay cool during this record heat. As the new first grade teacher at City Neighbors Hamilton, I want to tell you how excited I am to join this wonderful community of learners, and how much I am looking forward to getting to know all of you in the coming months!

Let me begin by telling you a little bit about myself. Much of my career has been spent working with families, children and staff as a director of various child development centers, mostly in the D.C. area. However, shortly after moving to Baltimore with my family, I began to pursue my original goal of being a classroom teacher. My educational background is a progressive one, and so the focus on arts integration, integrating learning through the study of projects, and on children as active participants in their learning, which is imbedded in the City Neighbors philosophy, was a natural fit. I was fortunate enough to spend the last year working as the first grade assistant at CNCS, so I was able to see much of this in action, and boy was it exciting! I was thrilled when the opportunity arose to teach first grade at CNH, and I can't wait to get started!

In between short trips to visit family, I have been spending much of my summer planning and beginning to ready the classroom for the fall; I know that many of you are also eager to begin preparing for first grade, and towards that end I am attaching a list of supplies. If you wish to get in touch with me for any reason, you may email me at lbryant@cityneighborshamilton.org; I will be checking my email regularly.

Have a great, great summer, and I look forward to seeing all of you at the start of first grade!

Lisa Bryant