



2016 - 2017 ABOUT OUR FIRST AND SECOND GRADE ...

Being in first and second grade is an exciting time, and we welcome those students and their families. For first grade students, it is a time of learning to be a bit more independent. Second graders are making huge strides in understanding concepts that were introduced in first grade. Multi-grade

classrooms have a built in advantage: for the first graders, they will not only hear new concepts being presented to them, but also get a preview of concepts as they are introduced to the second grade; the second grade students can review skills learned in the previous year, as they are presented to the first grade students for the first time.

Every student is precious in God's eyes and my eyes. Their thoughts and feelings are to be highly regarded. It is my prayer that as they enter my classroom, they understand that I will keep them safe and love them just the way they are.

ABOUT OUR FIRST AND SECOND GRADE TEACHER ...

Mrs. Bonnie Finke

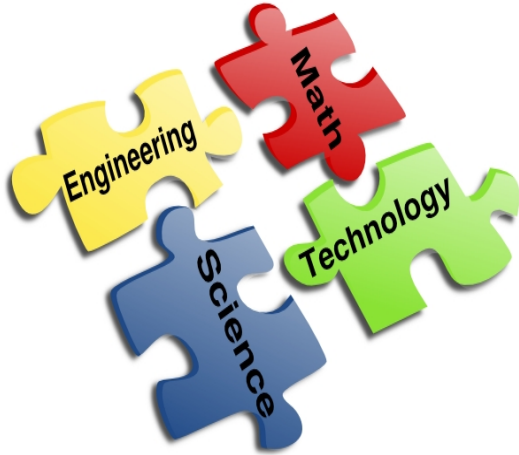
I received my Bachelor of Science in Education at Concordia University, Nebraska. I have taught in Milwaukee, WI, Watertown, MN, and Williston, ND. My husband and I have six children.

In my classroom, we begin the year with procedures, rules, and expectations. We strive for the fruits of the Spirit, as Paul mentions in his letter to the Galatians: "***but the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.***"



WHAT TO EXPECT THIS YEAR IN FIRST & SECOND GRADE ...

We are going to take an exciting step in project based learning with a monthly group project (STEM, science, technology, engineering, math). The first assignment will include researching, designing, testing, and presenting ideas as group work is done to design and build an easy-to-carry container to hold as many apples as possible. There are at least two field trips throughout the year, along with numerous opportunities to enjoy plays presented at St. Mary's College. The fall field trip will be to the Tewes Corn Maze.



With learning at this age, there is a big emphasis on language arts and math. Improving our reading skills in small groups using the routine of the Daily Five keeps us busy. Math concepts at this level include not only basic addition and subtraction, but learning how to use tally marks, graphs, telling time, patterns, counting money, and so much more. In all areas of study, we have our smart board to increase interaction.

We provide a well-rounded curriculum which includes all core subject areas, but also choir, music, art, and computers.

If you have any questions or comments about first or second grade, please feel free to contact me at:

bonnie.finke@stmartinswinona.org
or call the school, (507) 452-6928x130.



***Celebrating God's Grace and Inspiring Young Hearts -
St. Martin's School Celebrates 150 Years of Christian Education!!***