

Hello Early Primary Families!

I hope you all have been enjoying a wonderful summer and have some fun things planned for these last few weeks. For those of you who might not know, our Early Primary group will have 2 classroom teachers in the morning each day. This year Geneieve is on maternity leave until approximately Halloween. Janet will accompany me for the beginning of the school year to ensure that your kiddo starts off the school year on a sure foot and is fully supported. Genevieve and I both have preschool students at NBS- Aubree and Penelope- who will accompany the Early Primary class some afternoons.

My name is Laura, and I am so excited to get this year started with Janet and your kiddos. I would like to share a little bit about myself so that you know who your two teachers are! This year marks my 13th year in education. I began as a Program Specialist and Enrichment Science teacher at Ivy Creek School in Charlottesville. During that time I was pursuing my degree at James Madison University, and ultimately ended up finishing my BA at Goddard College in Vermont in Art Therapy & Youth Services. I then received my Masters in Education from the same college in Early Ed exactly 8 years later. During that time I had moved on from ICS and became a Living Earth School instructor during COVID, and then joined the administrative team at St. Anne's Belfield as the Assistant Preschool Director. I'll now be entering my fourth year with North Branch School. I can't wait to get to know your kiddos and begin stacking the foundational blocks you have built at home, together.

Most of you already know her, but the other wonderful teacher in this room will be Genevieve. Here is her bio:

Hi! My name is Genevieve! I became a part of the North Branch family as a student when I was 9 years old. After graduating in 2001 I went on to Nelson County High School and then continued my education at Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond. There, I received a Bachelor of Interdisciplinary Studies and graduated with a Masters in Teaching. I was thrilled to start my first year of teaching back at North Branch and taught the Juniors class for 2 years before moving to Early Primary. This will be my 9th year working with this age group. As Laura said, I will be out on maternity leave until the end of October, but plan to spend some time in the classroom after preschool drop off to get to know everyone and work on building relationships with your kiddos.

We are all so looking forward to seeing you all soon and for the school year ahead!

School supplies

Please provide each of the following items for your child:

- Inside shoes - comfortable, easy off and on, closed toe and will stay on feet! (Crocs are a great option)
- Spare change of clothes in a plastic bag (ziplock/grocery) to stay at school (including undergarments)
- Insulated Lunchbox or lunch back with ice pack
- Water bottle with closed spout - to go home and come back each day
- Full size backpack for items to go home daily
- Crayola Twistable Crayons -the longer length (Please label EACH crayon with your child's name)

The following is a list for general classroom use. We will use these items throughout the year. You may bring in one, some, all, or none of these items... Whatever works for your family!

- Tissues (No aloe, No lotion)
- Any/all size zipper storage bags (off brand is fine)
- Markers - thin or thick
- Construction paper 8 ½ x 11 (presorted if you happen to see it)
- 13 gallon trash bags
- Expo dry erase markers