

Dear Primary Blue Families:

I am so excited to work with you and your child! It's going to be a year full of fun, learning, and adventure, and I can't wait to see what is in store for us. I am most looking forward to diving into books with your child. This year we will strengthen and build our reading skills using the Orton Gillingham method, which offers a systematic and structured approach that breaks reading and spelling down into smaller skills involving letters and sounds. We will experience the written language together through chapter read-alouds, reading to ourselves and to one another, in search of books that captivate us to encourage a lifelong love of reading. In math class, we will implement a hands-on approach, using manipulatives and games along with independent daily work while building a solid foundation in number sense. It is my mission to teach with such passion and dedication that all my students will develop the desire to be lifelong learners.

Some of you may already know me, but for those who are new, allow me to introduce myself. My name is Susan, and I have been a part of the North Branch family since my oldest child started in Nursery. She is now a sophomore at Hollins University, and I have two other children, one who also attends North Branch. My eldest son is currently a rising sophomore at Nelson County High and my youngest is a student at North Branch. As a family, we have valued the experiences, education, and dedication from the teachers and staff here. After several years as a parent of North Branch students, I was eager to join the team and began hosting the Toddler Group on Wednesdays. I had a blast with the toddlers and their parents for four years before joining the North Branch faculty. Some of you may remember me from my previous position as lead teacher in the Nursery program and as a member of the Early Primary team. Three years ago I moved to Primary Blue and absolutely loved it. I am thrilled to embark on this journey with you and your child!

It is so important to keep communication open between us, and I would love to talk with you. Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns. My contact information and supply list are below. I look forward to a great year together!



Susan

Email: susanb@nbsva.org

School Supplies

Please provide each of the following items for your child:

- Inside shoes—(slippers) comfortable, easy-off-and-on, closed-toe shoes that will stay on feet! (Crocs are a great option.)
- Lunchbox/bag
- Water bottle with closed spout—to go home and come back each day
- Backpack for items to go home daily
- 2 packs Crayola 24 pack of crayons—Crayola preferred labeled with child's name (1 pack will be saved for later until needed)

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!

- Gallon-size or sandwich-size zipper storage bags (store brand is fine)
- Markers—thin or thick—Crayola preferred
- Construction paper, 8 ½ x 11
- 13-gallon trash bags
- Expo dry-erase markers
- Highlighters