



August 2025

Dear first-grade families:

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome you back to school. My name is Julie Gill, and I am excited to be your child's teacher this year! I live in St. Johns with my husband, Shane; we have four children. I received my Bachelor's Degree from Cornerstone University and my Master's Degree from Grand Canyon University. This will be my 20th year of teaching. I have worked as an instructional coach to teachers and taught fourth-grade, second-grade, and first-grade students. The academic gains children make in first grade are amazing, and I look forward to working with you!

IMPORTANT DATES:

- **August** Riley's Optional Open House Wednesday, August 20th 5-7 PM
- **August 25th** First Day of School
- **August 29th & September 1st** No School, Labor Day Weekend

SUPPLIES:

Students will store their supplies in their desks. While certainly not required, below is a list of suggested items your child will need.

- o Glue sticks (**No liquid glue, please**)
- o Kleenex (we use A LOT!!)
- o Box of Band-Aids
- o Zip lock baggies (any size)
- o Headphones/earbuds for Chromebook use
- o Pencils: wooden/not mechanical (pre-sharpened is very helpful ☺)
- o Crayons (16 count pack or less)
- o Markers/colored pencils
- o Scissors
- o 2 Dry-erase markers
- o Pencil box/container that will hold **all or most** of your child's supplies

****We go through a lot of Kleenex, black/thin dry-erase markers, and Clorox Wipes, so please think about donating some to the classroom. You can bring items in at the Open House or on the first day of school.***

My Amazon Classroom Wishlist link:

https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/216HOKHY7P4RV?ref=wl_share

BIRTHDAY TREATS/ INVITATIONS:

Riley Elementary does not allow birthday treats to come to school, per the Student Handbook. Your child will be celebrated when we sing to them, and they may choose from a choice of activities for the whole class to participate in. **We ask that you do NOT send in birthday invitations to hand out at school. Instead, please refer to the PTO's school directory to access student addresses.**

SNACK TIME:

In first grade, we do individual snacks as opposed to community snacks. Each afternoon, we will take a few minutes to have a snack, so please send something nutritious with your child (i.e., goldfish crackers, fresh fruit, granola bars, vegetables, etc.).

FRIDAY FOLDERS:

You can expect to find important notes from the office and our classroom each week in your child's Friday Folder. Please return the folder to school each Monday.

LUNCH MONEY:

If you choose to order lunch, you can pay online through the SJPS website: <https://www.sjredwings.org/>

I believe we are on the same team, so your support is greatly appreciated. Every two weeks, I will communicate important dates, classroom content information, etc., through an email titled: "First Grade Updates". The email address you provided in Infinite Campus is what I use to create a parent email group, so please be sure the correct email is listed in IC. Please call me if you have questions or concerns. My classroom phone number is 989.227.5160. You can also contact me by email at gillj@sjredwings.org. The best times to contact me are 8:40 am-9:00 am and 4:10 pm to 4:30 pm.

I look forward to meeting you at our Open House!

Sincerely,
Julie Gill

