

Dear Fourth Grade Families,

I am very excited to have your child in my fourth grade classroom. We are off to a great start so far! I hope your fourth grader came home feeling warmly welcomed in our classroom. I know how important it is to keep the lines of communication open. I encourage you to do the same, especially as it may regard your child's functioning in the classroom. I look forward to working closely with you toward a common goal of helping your child reach his/her full potential.

My classroom environment is very literacy based, as students are given opportunities to read on a daily basis and are involved in other literacy activities throughout the day. I hope through these opportunities that students will find a joy for reading and discover books that they have a passion for reading. Some resource books that I will be using in my classroom to enrich the reading curriculum are the "7 Keys to Comprehension" by Susan Zimmerman, "The Daily 5" by Gail Boushey & Joan Moser, and "Comprehension Connections" by Tanny McGregor, just to name a few. While the district reading series will be used, materials from these resources will also be used as an instructional piece. The Daily 5 provides a framework from which I work off during the assigned literacy block time. This block of time is dedicated solely for literacy activities. Students will be engaged in small guided reading groups, reading to themselves, listening to reading, reading with partners, and working with words. Students will also be instructed on nonfiction text features and strategies so that students can find success in reading nonfiction as content area textbooks become an important tool for learning in 4<sup>th</sup> grade. I encourage you to check out the attached brochure to learn more about the reading and writing curriculum in 4C!

4C is a team that consists of teachers, parents, students, and the principal, so that all students are given the opportunity to experience success. Together we can provide the best environment for each student so that learning can occur. Students will gain knowledge through participating in hands on activities, through reading fiction and nonfiction books and textbooks, participation in discussion, and experimenting. Through these opportunities, students will feel a sense of ownership for their learning as they start to become more independent.

My goal is to provide a classroom where your child feels comfortable and confident so that learning can occur. I will challenge each student so that they can reach their full potential and expect that they work hard throughout the day. I encourage students to use polite words. Throughout the year I will do activities that will encourage students to be respectful to one another.

Please contact me if you have any questions, comments, or concerns. I do check my email regularly throughout the day, so this can be a great communication tool. I also have a classroom website that includes information about our classroom, links for kids, and contact information

Thanks,  
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