

Welcome to 4th Grade!

We believe educational success takes TEAMWORK! It is essential that parents and teachers work together to ensure that students understand the importance of learning and have the best opportunity to get a quality education.

Here are the ABC's of what you need to know for 4th grade:

Absences/Tardies: Please refer to the student handbook for the policies regarding excused and unexcused absences/tardies. It is extremely important that your child is at school on time every day in order to receive the instruction they need! Excessive tardies and/or absences have been shown to have a negative impact on students' academic achievement. Our social worker will be in close contact with the students who have excessive absences and tardies. If your child misses a day of school, please send a note stating the reason for the child's absence within 3 days. Students who are absent are responsible for getting and completing their make-up work in a timely manner. Please note that graded assignments like tests and quizzes are not usually allowed to be made up at home but must be completed at school.

Birthday Celebrations: Treats for the class may be sent in to eat during lunch. Treats must be store-bought so we can see the ingredient list in case of student allergies and sealed.

Conferences: Parent-teacher conferences are required for all students at the end of the 1st quarter.

Discipline: Please stress the importance of your child's behavior as a way of protecting the learning environment. Behavior that compromises instructional time or the learning success of others will not be tolerated.

We will keep track of daily behavior with the ClassDojo app (classdojo.com). Students have the opportunity to earn points by displaying positive behaviors such as following directions quickly, working well with others, encouraging others, being prepared for class, etc. They will have chances to redeem those points for prizes and rewards throughout the year.

Students can also lose points if they choose a negative behavior or refuse to correct a behavior after being given a warning. If the student continues with the negative behavior, they will receive a consequence of the teacher's choice. We will also utilize PBIS referral forms if needed:

-Minor: For less serious behaviors that become frequent and therefore disruptive to learning. 3 received for the same offense in a 2 week period = major office referral.

-Major: For more serious behaviors such as fighting and disrespect that need to be addressed by the principal in addition to the classroom teacher. Receiving more than one of these makes you ineligible for the PBIS celebration at the end of the quarter.

You can keep track of your child's behavior through the ClassDojo app throughout the day. We can also send

messages back and forth. Please know if you send a message during the instructional day that we may not have time to respond until the afternoon.

Discussing your child's behavior choices on a daily basis is important. Please praise them for positive choices and/or help them reflect on negative choices. Our goal is to encourage behaviors that help the students learn and grow as much as possible.

Electronics: Refer to the student handbook for GCS policy regarding the use of electronics. Please discourage your child from bringing electronics and toys from home to school, unless permission is given for a special reward or celebration. If a student must carry their phone to school it must be kept in their bookbag and turned off. Fourth grade students will be issued a Chromebook from the school. We will use Chromebooks frequently, so it is very important that students take this responsibility seriously.

Field Trips: There will be field trips that will be determined on a later date

Grading: GCS uses a 10 point scale.

A = 90-100 B = 80-89 C = 70-79 D = 60-69
F = 50-59

Homework: Monday - Thursday students will be expected to complete pages in their Eureka Succeed book for math homework. Students must also read 30 minutes nightly and complete a reading log. Students may also occasionally be asked to study for science and social studies tests or work on projects at home. Homework will be listed in the **weekly newsletter**.

Students who complete their homework will earn ClassDojo points. Students will receive a homework completion grade for math. The homework grade is based on effort and completion, not accuracy, using the following scale:

of Complete Assignments in Week
4=100 3=88 2=76 1=64 0=50

Students can turn in a missing homework assignment the following day and receive half credit.

More specific information about how the reading log will be graded will be coming soon!

Ipods, ipads, and tablets can be a great way to learn.

- Check out an e-book from the library.
- Practice multiplication facts with a fun app.
- After reading a nonfiction book, watch a video about the subject of the book for more info.
- Practice math skills with games.

Journals: We will have an interactive notebook for certain subjects. Students will take notes and complete practice activities in each journal.

Keeping it Safe: If your student is experiencing any Covid symptoms or other illnesses, please notify the school.

Late and Missing Assignments: Penalties for late assignments will be clearly defined in the rubric if applicable. Students who have unfinished assignments must complete them in a reasonable amount of time or points will be taken off for the incomplete work.

Monday Folder: Student work will be sent home in a "Monday Folder" each week. Please take the papers out and look through your child's assignments, especially the graded ones! Then sign the log and return the empty folder. If you are not receiving papers or suspect that your child is not bringing their work home, please contact me immediately.

Newsletters: You will receive a newsletter with announcements, curriculum updates, and important dates every week. Each week's homework will also be listed. Please read to stay informed about what's going on! Important information and reminders will also be sent over ClassDojo.

Open minds: We are always trying new things to get the students excited about learning!

PBIS: Our school is a Positive Behavior Intervention and Support school. All students are expected to be Respectful, Responsible, and Safe. During the first week of school we will teach the school-wide expectations for the hallways, bathrooms, cafeteria, playground, and assemblies. Students are praised and rewarded for making positive behavior choices. Students also get to decide on a way to celebrate every time they earn 25 paws as a class.

Questions? Feel free to call, email, send a Class Dojo message, or write a note. Our goal is to return all contacts within 24 business hours.

Read, read, read, read, read! If you want to know the best way to help your child succeed in 4th grade and beyond...it's to READ with your child every night. Make it a priority, enjoy reading and discussing a variety of texts together, and model good reading habits yourself. Our goal is to help ALL students leave 4th grade with a love of reading and an understanding of its importance!

Snack: We will have a working snack sometime mid-morning based on our schedule of activities. Students may bring in dry, healthy snacks only. Teacher will not supply snacks. No candy or sugary liquids please!

Team Teaching: This year, fourth grade will be team teaching. Your student will have one teacher for math and science and another for reading and social studies. The teams are:

Mrs. Gale (Math and Science) & Mrs. Croswell (Reading and Social Studies)

Ms. Lawler (Math and Science) & Ms. Lavey (Reading and Social Studies)

Understanding: We strive to make our classrooms places of respect and tolerance.

Volunteers and Visitors: To be a volunteer you must register on the GCS website.

Water Bottles will be permitted as long as students can use them without disruption. (Water only, no flavored drinks or powders)

"Xtra" Credit: Extra Credit opportunities will be rare. Do not rely on extra credit to save a low grade!

Yes we can! We hope to see all students grow this year!

Zzzzzz: Setting and keeping a consistent bedtime for your child guarantees they get a good night's rest and come to school ready to learn.

SPECIALS SCHEDULE	Gale	Lavey	Croswell	Lawler
Monday	Art	Music	Spanish	PE
Tuesday	Media/ Guidance	PE	Music	Art
Wednesday	Spanish	Art	PE	Media/ Guidance
Thursday	Music	Media/ Guidance	Art	Spanish
Friday	PE	Spanish	Media/ Guidance	Music

4th Grade Daily Schedule

7:05-7:25 = Arrival

7:25-7:40 = Breakfast, Morning Work

7:40-9:25 = Block 1

9:25-10:10 = Intervention/Enrichment

10:15-10:55 = Specials

11:00-11:55 = Block 2, part 1

11:55-12:45 = Staggered Lunch

(11:55 Gale, 12:00 Lavey, 12:05 Lawler, 12:10 Croswell)

12:45-1:15 = Recess

1:15-2:00 = Block 2, part 2

2:00-2:10 = Pack Up

2:10 = Dismissal