**Mrs. Tharpe’s Fourth Grade**

Everything you need to know about 4th grade

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| Agenda | Students will not have agendas this school year. All information will be communicated through Class DoJo. Please check Class DoJo often for classroom updates. If you have a question or concern, please write me a note or communicate through DoJo. That is a great form of communication, because I will check DoJo daily.  |
| Attendance | Nothing can replace instruction during the school day. If possible, please schedule trips/appointments on non-school days. If your child is absent, his/her absent work is due three days after the day he/she returns. If possible, please pick up your child’s absent work so they do not get behind. Remember to send a note with your child the day he/she returns to school explaining the absence. Please make every effort to have your child at school on time. Students must be at school 3.75 hours to be counted present. Remember three unexcused tardies equal one absence.  |
| Classroom Management | Students will be rewarded for following the school and class expectations with Class DoJo points. Students will spend their DoJo points weekly for PBIS clubs. Clubs will be 40 points each. If students have points left they may spend them in the classroom store. If a student does not follow the expectations, class interventions will be determined and parents will be notified. If classroom interventions do not correct the behavior, room-to-room time-out and the PBIS reflection teacher may be used. This can result in a working lunch. If students do not reach the 40 point mark they will participate in a reflection club on Friday.  |
| E.O.G.s | Again this year, your child will take End of Grade tests in reading and math at the end of the year.  |
| Extra Credit | I do not typically give extra credit assignments at the end of the quarter to improve grades. Students may be given periodic extra credit opportunities throughout the year if an occasion arises based on our unit of study.  |
| Field Trips | Field trips correlate to our units of study. They provide students worthwhile hands-on opportunities. Please note the approximate cost of the trips below so you can plan accordingly.* OVTA Day September 27th $3.00
* Appalachian State University and lunch at Makoto’s: October 11 $14.00 (Parents $8.00-lunch)
* JAWC: March 1 $8.00 each
* Raleigh: April 13 $37 and (Parents $ 5.00-lunch)

If you would like to attend the ASU or Raleigh field trips you must fill out the volunteer form on the Wilkes County School website.  |
| Graded Work | Math grades are given on select homework assignments, quizzes, and tests. . Students receive reading grades using rubrics based on independent reading, conferences, practice pages, and effort. Weekly quizzes are given to monitor comprehension. Language Arts grades are given on weekly spelling tests, spelling activities, and other class work. Class work, projects, and participation grades are given in social studies, science, and health. 4th graders are graded on a 10 point scale.  |
| Homework | * Reading: Read independently at least twenty minutes each night- it can be the newspaper, a magazine, comics- anything as long as it is text. Students should record the number of minutes read on the weekly Reading Log and complete the writing reflection about the week’s reading. Reading logs are due the last day of each week. Please encourage your child to read books on his/her Lexile level.
* Math Facts: Practice math facts every night! Timed math fact quizzes will be given weekly.
* Week Homework: Your child will be given a reading log and math fact review weekly. Please encourage your child to work on these assignments throughout the week. Completed week homework is due the last day of each week.
* Other: Any other work he/she brings home is work that was not completed in class. Except for periodic projects, I do not assign extra work just to be homework. I do not give homework on Fridays. I do not want homework to be a stressful time for you or your child. If homework becomes a problem for your child, please discuss this with me. Fourth grade students should spend 45-60 minutes on homework each night. I do expect it to be turned in on time. Late work is not accepted except due to an absence.
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| Homework Folder | Students should have all homework papers and parent letters in a designated gold homework folder. It is very important that your child brings his/her homework folder back to school every day. |
| I.E. | A tutoring/enrichment block has been built into the regular school day. This is a time for us to review or further explore concepts. Students may go to another fourth grade teacher during this time to best meet his/her needs. This year we will have reading and math I.E.  |
| Physical Education | Students will have PE every-other day for one hour. Please dress accordingly. Time will not be allotted for students to change shoes for PE.  |
| Snack | Your child may bring a healthy snack if he/she wishes. Please do not bring carbonated drinks or colored juices. If you would like to send in a special snack for your child’s birthday, it is welcomed. However, the food needs to be store bought and prepared. According to the School Nutrition Guidelines, we can no longer serve homemade food items.  |
| Weekly Progress report | Graded work and parent letters are sent home each Friday inside of your child’s gold homework folder. Please review your child’s grades with him/her. If an assignment has a grade of 80 or below, please have your child correct the assignment and return it to class. I typically will not change the grade, but this step is important so we learn from the mistakes. I keep most tests on file during the year, but if you want to know specific test grades please ask.  |
| Wiki | Our class wiki website is http://tharpetaylor.weebly.com/. This is a site where you can find important information about our class. This is also a great site for your child to visit. I have linked other websites that go along with our curriculum for your child to explore and practice. |

If you have any questions, feel free to ask. I hope we have a great year together!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Tharpe

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696-3553

**\*PLEASE SIGN AND RETURN THE ATTACHED FORM.\***