

Fourth Grade Teachers:

English Language Arts (ELA): Mrs. Durand (durand@freeport.k12.pa.us)

Math, Science, Social Studies: Ms. Killian (killian@freeport.k12.pa.us)

Health (semester grade) - Mr. Lowry (lowry@freeport.k12.pa.us)

ELA:

We will use the Journey's reading series for our core instruction. We will begin a new lesson/story on every Day 1. Spelling tests will be on Day 5 and grammar skills and reading tests will always be on Day 6. If there is ever a change in the testing schedule, students will be made aware of it in advance. In reading, the students will be assessed on vocabulary, comprehension, phonics, vocabulary strategies, and comprehension strategies. A study sheet will be sent home at the beginning of each six day rotation to help the students prepare for assessments. The textbook and Reader's Notebook is also available online. Usernames and passwords will be sent home.

We will also be reading a few novels throughout the year as well.

Accelerated Reader (AR):

AR is mandatory in fourth grade and is a part of their reading grade. Twelve points are required each nine week grading period. This will enable the students to reach their goal of 48 points for the year. Ample time will be provided to take tests during school hours. More information will be provided soon. Students must have a book to read at their seats at all times.

Required Supplies:

- 1 ½ inch binder
- Three hole pencil bag (not box) with at least 3 sharpened pencils
- Pens (any color except black)
- Hand-held pencil sharpener
- Take home pocket folder preferably with (all other folders will be provided)

Classroom Wish List:

- Tissues
- Clorox wipes
- Hand sanitizer
- Extra pencils

Homework:

Please check assignment journal and oversee homework. It will also be posted on the Schoology website. If your child is absent, homework will be sent home with a homework buddy. If a parent chooses to pick up the work, please notify the office first thing in the morning.

Excuses:

Excuses for absences are required. If an excuse is not sent to school within 3 days of the absence, they will be marked unexcused/illegal.

Rules:

- **Be Safe:** Keep hands, feet, and all other object to yourself, walk safely in the halls, and use materials appropriately.
- **Be Kind:** Include others, use polite words, and be a friend.
- **Be Cooperative:** Follow directions the first time given, take turns, and share with others.
- **Be Peaceful:** Use a quiet voice, walk quietly in the halls, make calm transitions, and keep your bodies quiet.
- **Be Responsible:** Take care of yourself. Let others resolve their own problems, do your best, be honest, and accept the outcome of your behavior.

Birthday Celebrations:

Please let me know if you will be sending in a treat for your child's birthday. If sending in any type of cake or cookie cake, I ask that you please cut the cake PRIOR to sending it in to class. We also ask that you avoid any treats with peanuts or tree nuts. If your child has a summer birthday and would like to celebrate with the class, please let me know when your child would like to celebrate. There are 24 students in our class.

Water Bottles:

In 4th grade, students are permitted to bring in water bottles which are to be filled with water only. Students will be permitted to have water bottles in the afternoon only.

Important Dates:

Parent Conferences: November 9th and 10th
February 15th and 16th

PSSA Testing: ELA- Week of April 9
Math- Week of April 16
Science- Week of April 23

Special Area Schedule:

Day 1: Music
Day 2: Health
Day 3: Library
Day 4: Computer
Day 5: Physical Education/Computer
Day 6: Art

*Chorus will be on Days 2 and 4. Although it is optional, most student chose to participate. Extra work will be provided to students who do not participate.

Communication:

I feel communication between a teacher and a child's family is a must for a child to have a successful year. In 4th grade, our classroom websites can be found on Schoology. All homework and announcements will be posted on Schoology. This will be an important tool to keep you informed at home. Both the student and family should check Schoology regularly for class updates. If necessary, students are able to send me messages if any questions arise regarding their homework or school while at home, and I will try my best to respond in a timely manner! You will receive a separate paper with login information for the site.

If at any time you have questions or concerns, I encourage you to contact me immediately. Email is the best form of communication. If you would prefer to call, please call before school begins or after the students are dismissed. If you have a request to pick up work for your child or there is a change in dismissal, please call the front office as I may not get the message in time.

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