

## **Classroom Information**

### **Miss Thompson's Fourth Grade Class**

Welcome! I am very excited to meet everyone and to start the new school year. This is an overview of the policies I use to keep the classroom running smoothly. Please read through it with your child and let me know if you have any questions.

#### **Fourth Grade Goals and Responsibility**

My goal is for all my students to be courteous and productive Bear Cubs. In fourth grade, students are given more responsibility than in prior grades. I expect students in my class to take responsibility for their actions and their own work. My role is to teach and each student's role is to learn.

The 4th Grade Utah State Curriculum covers a large amount of information. End-of-the-year tests will cover, not only math and language arts but also science. There is a lot to learn! But not to worry: your child will succeed if she or he pays attention to instruction, completes quality work, and seeks new opportunities to learn!

In addition to doing their best work, I have two recommendations for making fourth grade a successful year.

- 1. Fluently memorize multiplication and division facts through 12.**
- 2. Read at least 20 minutes per night.**

Both of these will help your child practice essential skills for fourth grade and life and make the rest of the work easier!

#### **Absences**

The school must account for each student every day. The automated program SKYALERT will contact you if your student is not at school. Please call the office to report if your child will be missing school.

We cover a lot of material in class so it is important students attend school on time. (School starts at 8:25.) Students who miss school will receive make-up work to complete. If you have a planned vacation or absence, please let me know at least three days in advance so I can get work together for your child.

## **Birthdays**

We celebrate every student's birthday! If your child's birthday falls on a non-school day or during the summer, we will celebrate on a school day either before or after.

If you want to provide a birthday treat for your child's birthday, it must be non-edible, or, if food, individually wrapped. Suggested items could be, but are not limited to, pencils, stickers, notebooks, bracelets, erasers, markers, pens, bubbles, jump ropes, sunglasses, etc. Please remember nothing can resemble weapons.

## **Contacting the Teacher**

It is important to me to stay in touch with my students' families. Please contact me if you have questions or concerns about anything. The best way to do this is by email. My school email is [Suzanne.Thompson@jordandistrict.org](mailto:Suzanne.Thompson@jordandistrict.org) I send out information by email so please check the address you provide me regularly.

## **Classroom Rules and Discipline**

Respect is the keyword in our classroom. Every student is expected to respect him or herself, respect others and respect the school environment. Each student should strive to do his or her best, be courteous, talk only at appropriate times, and be prepared to learn. This year it will be especially important to respect one another's personal space.

## **Homework**

If a student does not complete an assignment in class, it will be sent home as homework. Assignments are always due the next morning. If a student uses class time well, he or she will generally not have much unfinished work to complete. Students are responsible for bringing work back to school and will not be allowed to call home for homework.

## **Home Reading**

Reading is a skill that must be practiced to increase fluency and comprehension. I ask my fourth graders to read **a minimum of 100 minutes a week**. Ideally, students should read 20+ minutes each school night, but it can be done in chunks as long as the weekly total is at least 100 minutes. Any type of home reading counts: reading books, magazines, or newspapers to self; reading for book reports; reading to siblings; reading as a family; etc. Reading on a Kindle or iPad is great; just don't be tempted by your games!

### **Computer Usage and Internet Safety**

Computers are essential to students today! Between researching for science projects, creating powerpoint presentations, and practicing reading and math skills, my class uses technology almost every day. My class will be using Google Classroom as the main access point to materials.

I teach my students how to be responsible with their physical devices and how to use the internet in a safe and productive manner. Students will also be responsible for their own login information for several different websites. If a student doesn't follow these guidelines, he or she may lose the privilege of using the computers.

### **Late Work**

As I am encouraging responsibility in my class, students will experience consequences when work is not turned in on time. Much of our classroom work builds on prior assignments so it is important work is completed as assigned. Students who have not completed assignments may need to use recess time to complete work. I will contact parents if work is continually late.

### **Physical Education**

I expect each student to do their best! This does not mean they must all run a mile, but it does mean they make an effort in our activities. Students will also need to wear or bring appropriate shoes each day. If your child is too hurt or ill to take part, please send a note. Otherwise, everyone will participate at his or her individual ability level.

### **Planners and Folders**

Students will record homework that needs to be done in planners each day. Planners serve to teach students responsibility and organization, as well as being a means of communication between your family and myself. The folder is a handy place to put work that needs to be finished and to get school notes or graded papers home to parents.

### **Phone Calls**

Please limit the number of phone calls to leave messages for your child. Arrangements for rides and play dates should be made outside of school time. Students should know how they are getting home each day without a call home.

### **Toys/Cell Phones**

Students need to leave toys at home. While I know some students have cell phones to stay in contact with parents, it is a school rule that phones be turned off and stored in backpacks during the school day.

## **Volunteers**

I love volunteers! You can volunteer to spend time with us in class or do projects in the evenings. I appreciate your help! All volunteers need a background check before helping at school or attending field trips. I will send home a volunteer note with details shortly for those who are interested.

## **Water Bottles/Bathroom Breaks**

This year my sister's business donated water bottles for our entire class! Water bottles will go home regularly to be washed and refilled for the next day. Because they have access to water bottles, students also need bathroom breaks. The bathroom should be used before school, during class breaks, at lunch, during afternoon recess, and/or by request during class.

**Thank you for your interest in your child's education!** I appreciate all the help you give your child at home. It is going to be a great school year, and I'm excited to get to know your child better! Please sign and return the next page of this packet as soon as possible and keep this packet for reference throughout the year. Thank you!

Miss Suzanne Thompson

[suzanne.thompson@jordandistrict.org](mailto:suzanne.thompson@jordandistrict.org)

## Weekly Schedule

Monday - Computers/Golden Gate

Tuesday - STEM

Wednesday - PE/Music and Library

Thursday - Art

**Information Packet Agreement**

I have read and agree to abide by the policies set forth in Miss Thompson's information packet.

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Student Signature

Date

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Adult Signature

Date