September 3, 2019

Dear Parents and Students,

 Hello and welcome to the fourth grade! I am very excited to work with you and your child this year. We are off to a wonderful start and I look forward to meeting you on September 11, 2019 at Curriculum Night. We are having two sessions: 6:30 – 7:15 p.m. and 7:30 – 8:15 p.m. Please pick the time that works best for you and your family! Below are some important classroom rules and procedures I feel you should be aware of:

**Communication:** If you need to contact me, please write me a note, use your child’s planner or you can email me at renee.mucci@lok12.org. You may also leave a voicemail for me at 248-391-0400 ext. 2018 and I will return your phone call as soon as I am able. Our classroom website is <http://mrsmucci.weebly.com>. It contains our weekly newsletters, important information, as well as many fun and educational resources.

**Newsletters**: A newsletter will be sent home every week via email through School Messenger. This newsletter will inform you of what we will be doing in class during the next week and any information about upcoming events. This is an essential tool for keeping you and your child posted on what is happening in school. It is imperative that the School Messenger system has all of your updated contact information. ***If email is not an option for you, then please notify me as soon as possible, so that a hard copy of the newsletter and other important school notes can be sent home.***

**Homework:** Although it is not assigned homework, your child should read for **at least 30 minutes each night**. This is important to show growth throughout the year. Occasionally, your child might have unfinished classwork as homework. This will be marked in their planner with a HW. This homework is due the following morning. When your child does not have unfinished classwork as homework, practicing their math facts, reading and freewriting are great ways to keep their skills fresh.

**Planners:** The planner is used in grades 3-5. This is a great organizational tool for you and your child. Please go over the planner every night with your student to make sure they completed all their work and be aware of what we are learning in class. **Sign the planner each night**, since I will be looking for your signature in the morning. Your signature lets me know you have discussed your child’s homework, have seen the completed assignment(s) and are aware of any upcoming assignments or events.

**8-pocket Folders:** We use an 8-pocket folder to help your child stay organized and transport papers to and from school. We will use these folders daily in fourth grade. Please be on the lookout for the papers in the **take home section** and clean this section out frequently.

**Positivity Project:** As stated in the Positivity Project Family Information Letter:

*The Positivity Project is a non-profit organization dedicated to helping America’s youth build stronger relationships by recognizing the character strengths in themselves and others. Their vision is to create citizens and leaders who will enhance our communities and country by internalizing the belief that “Other People Matter.”*

The students will be learning about 24 character traits this school year. Each trait will be focused on for one to two weeks to help students understand them through definition, examples, discussions, and exercises. More information about this project can be found on the website: [www.posproject.org](http://www.posproject.org/)

**Snack:** We will have snack time every morning around 9:50 A.M. This snack should be nutritious and **peanut and tree nut free**. Students may also bring in a water bottle, but please stick to water only. There is no gum chewing in our classroom.

**Lunch and Recess:** Fourth graders have recess from 11:35 – 11:57 A.M. and lunch from 11:58 – 12:20 P.M.

**Rules:** The following are some classroom rules that all students need to obey so we can maximize our learning time.

* Follow directions the first time they’re given
* Be respectful and kind to others
* Be a good listener
* Keep your hands, feet and objects to yourself.

**Webber Buckaroos:** For our classroom management, all fourth graders participate in an economic based management program called “Webber Buckaroos.” Students are paid $50 every two weeks based on their attendance. Throughout the pay period, students have debits (expenses, breaking classroom rules, not having their name on their paper, not turning in homework, and being disrespectful) and have the opportunity to earn credits (going above and beyond on assignments, having an organized desk, helping peers or the teacher). Three times this year, students will attend a celebration and can purchase entrance, treasure chest items, food and activities at the celebration using the “Webber Bucks” they earned throughout the trimester.

 A slip of paper might come home in your child’s planner. This slip lets you know what fine your child incurred that day and needs to be signed by you and returned to school the following day. Below you will find the possible fines and the amounts that each fine is worth.

* No Name on Paper - $2
* Late Assignment - $5
* Failure to Follow Directions - $2
* Talking out of Turn - $1
* Inappropriate Behavior - $5

**Birthdays:** I allow students to bring in a birthday treat to celebrate their special day. This can be a treat bag or a food item that is **peanut and tree nut free.** Due to district guidelines, any food item must be prepackaged and store bought.

**Safety:** Keeping your child safe and knowing where they are at all times is my number one priority. If your child is going to be sick, please call the office so we know your child will not be in attendance that day. If you do not call the office, they will call you to find out where your child is.

 We know our school can’t run without volunteers, so if you are visiting the school, please start your visit in the office. You will need to sign in and get a visitor sticker to wear throughout the duration of your visit.

 The Webber policy is that your child will follow their normal dismissal routine unless we have a note. I prefer you sending in a paper or note in your child’s planner instead of an email regarding these changes just in case I am out of the building when you have a change. You may also call the office up until 2:30 P.M. to notify them of any dismissal changes.

**Specials:** The district is following a four-day rotational special schedule where your child will participate in Media, P.E., Music and Art. Our special time is 9:00 – 9:45 A.M. Please help your child be prepared with proper shoes for P.E. and books for Media. The attached calendar is coded to let you know what Room 18’s specials are for the year.

**Conferences:** Here is the link to sign up for our mandatory fall conferences. Please sign up for the day and time that works best for you. https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0C4CAFA823AA8-mucci1

I look forward to seeing you all on September 11, 2019 at Curriculum Night. Please bring your calendars to sign up for classroom celebrations and volunteer times.

Thank you,

Renee Mucci

