

WELCOME TO THE FOURTH GRADE!

Attendance:

The attendance recorder for Greenbrier Elementary is set up to accept phone calls from 4:00 p.m. to 10:00 a.m., each afternoon/evening/night/morning. Please report all absences as soon as possible, preferably prior to 9:30a.m., on the day of the absence. If you know that your child will be absent for day/days in advance please notify the office and teacher as soon as possible. We appreciate your help with this matter.

Communication:

In the fourth grade it is very important that the student learns to take charge of their work and gets organized, as well as, being able to be the primary communicator between school and home. I will be using the student as the first line of communication between home and school this year.

Assignment policy

1. All assignments are to be completed on a full piece of wrinkle-free, white, blue – lined paper, unless a worksheet is given.
2. All assignments will need to be neatly written in legible handwriting.
3. All assignments are to be completed in regular, (not colored) #2 lead pencil.
4. All assignments, unless otherwise instructed, will need to be completed using complete sentences. Using part of the questions as part of the answer.
5. All assignments are to begin with the following heading in the upper right hand corner of the top sheet:

Student name and #	Jane Doe # 1
Date	8/20/05
Subject	math set #1
Due Date	Due 8/21/05

When a student is assigned an assignment they are given time and expected to write a full heading on the upper-right hand corner. This heading will include their name and class number, the date they received the assignment, the subject where the assignment will need to be stored in their file folders, and the due date of the assignment. This will be modeled for them the first part of the school year on the overhead or whiteboard, but should become part of their routine.

Following this the assignments will be recorded with the name of the assignment and the due date on the whiteboard at the front of the classroom under the correct subject area. The students will be expected to use the whiteboard information to keep themselves organized and to complete their work on time. They will also be expected to use this information to fill out their assignment notebook, complete work on time, and get organized.

Grades-

Academic averages determine a student's report card grades. These grades are affected by test scores, homework, class projects, daily assignments, and participation. The grades are also weighted according to the significance of the assignment.

Working together, we can make this a wonderful year!!

Assignments and Homework Policies

The purpose for assigning homework is to offer the student an opportunity to independently practice newly acquired skills and to

practice ongoing skills. The assignments are not meant to take more than 45 minutes, Monday through Thursday.

Should you find that your student is spending more than this amount of time on a regular basis, please check to see if the work being completed at home is actual homework or class work that should have been completed during the school day. You may identify the different types of work by first asking the student, but secondly, by logging onto the classroom blog which will list the daily homework to be completed. Student should not be completing class work at home on a consistent basis. Often times it has been my experience with fourth graders that they like to save their work (even class work) to be completed at home with your help. This is one of the big life lessons that fourth graders will learn how to plan and use their time wisely. Before calling me please take a moment and note what it is exactly that your child is working on so extensively each night. If it is class work on a consistent basis have them pack it up following the 45 minutes. They must learn to use their class time to complete this work. If it is homework, please contact me to see how we can help your student. It will help us to come up with a plan that will work for all involved, please note that the 45 minutes does not include their independent reading or long term projects. Ideally it will include spelling, math and language arts. Each day, nightly homework will be listed in each student's assignment notebook. As the student's guardian you should be able to view all work the student is working on including class work. All work should be going home in the student's file folder each night. Please do not sign the assignment notebook until you have viewed and reviewed the student's homework each evening. If you find that the student is not bringing home their work or not filling out their assignment notebook properly each day. Again, please notify me immediately. It is important in the fourth grade that the student takes on the role as the initial communicator between the school and home. It is an expected outcome for a fourth grade student. Should you need to communicate with me you may forward a note in the assignment notebook or email me.

Assignment Notebooks

Student will be using assignment notebooks this year to help keep them organized. Only the nightly homework will be listed in the assignment notebook, *if they are working on something else other than what is listed on the assignment notebook they are most likely working on something they*

should have completed in class. As I stated before you should be able to see all assignments! Nothing should be left at school! Please do not sign the assignment notebook unless all assignment have been reviewed and completed. If you are unable to verify that an assignment has been completed, please do not sign that it is. Instead write me a message in the book as to what is not complete or you were not able to view.

Water Bottles

Students are encouraged to bring water bottles to school each day, especially while it is so hot outside. The water bottles are to contain water only. Students will be asked to dispose of any other liquid (i.e. soda pop, milk, juice, etc.). The water bottles are to be stored on the counter top near the classroom sink only, through out the day. The water bottles are never to be at the student's desk. This will avoid accidents that could lead to upset students and ruined assignments. At the end of each day, students should make sure to take their water bottles home to be cleaned. This will help to prevent the spread of germs, causing sickness throughout the classroom. Water bottles left in the classroom at the end of the day could be disposed of by maintenance. Please help by reminding your student to take their water bottles home each day.

Snacks

Mrs. Hall's fourth graders are allowed to bring a small healthy snack each day. The snack should not interfere with the learning that is going on in the classroom. Please do not allow the student to bring candy! They will be asked to throw this away. Please monitor what your student is bringing. Each student will be held accountable for keeping their particular classroom area clean. Should a mess be created from the student's snack, they will lose the privilege of having a snack. It is also the policy of the Deer Valley School District that the students are not to share their snacks with any other student in the classroom. Many students are not fully aware of all allergies to food that other students may have. This could lead to a health and safety issue.

Birthdays

As a class we would love to share your child's special dates such as their birthdays. If you would like, you may send in treats (individual servings) that are easily shared with the class. Please do not bring in any treats that required cutting or longer than 10 minutes to disperse to the students. The treats will not be shared until the last 10 minutes of

the day. We do have an allergy situation in our classroom this year, if you want to share a treat with the class please make sure to read the label on the treat prior to purchasing them. They must be free of all contact with tree nuts. Thanks for all your help with this.

Should you want to use the classroom to deliver birthday invitation, please have the students give the invitations to Mrs. Hall? I will then give the invitation out without the other students knowing. This will avoid hurt feelings for the students of our class.

Pillows

Students are allowed to bring in a small pillow to sit on throughout the day. The seats they are sitting on are hard and can become uncomfortable. The pillows are to be used only for sitting on.

Half Day Lunch Procedures

On half day or early release days the school day is from 9:00 until 12:20. On these days the class does not go to lunch as a group, but the students are able to still eat lunch at school if necessary at 11:30. They will be going to the cafeteria to dine and then returning back to the classroom following.