

Welcome to 4th Grade

Mrs.
Cunningham
Room 112

Volume 1, Issue 1

Newsletter Date



Welcome



Welcome to the fabulous world of fourth grade. I know that you and your child are looking forward to the beginning of a new school year; however, I know that the first day of school comes with both excitement and apprehension. It is my hope that this letter will ease your mind and make the transition into fourth grade easier for you and your child.

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself. My name is Mrs. Lori Cunningham. I am married to Steven Cunningham. Steven and I have three children. Brandon, 10 years old, Aaron, 8, and BreAnn, 4. I enjoy spending time with my family and friends. This is my third year teaching. For the last two years I have taught third grade at Norwood Elementary. I am very excited to be part of the Hartville team and I am really looking forward to teaching in the fourth grade. I think that the fourth grade curriculum is both interesting and challenging.

I feel that parent/teacher communication is the key to your child's success. Each Monday I will send home a newsletter informing you of the upcoming events as well as the weeks activities in the classroom. Also, your child will have a brief reading assignment each night except for Wednesday's (Wednesday is our free night). I will send a weekly assignment sheet home with your child on Monday. It is my goal to limit work at home to about 20 minutes a night.

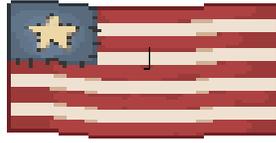
I am looking forward to working with you and your child this year. It is my goal to help your child learn and grow to his or her full potential.

Lori Cunningham

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"The mediocre teacher tells. The good teacher explains. The superior teacher demonstrates. The great teacher inspires." - William Ward



Parent and Teacher Relationship

I believe that a good parent teacher relationship is very important. I believe that it takes a mutual respect and understanding. Throughout the year I will communicate with you through notes, telephone calls, quarterly reports, and parent-teacher con-

*Someone cannot do everything.
Everyone can do something.*

ferences. Please do not be alarmed if your child comes home with a note just simply saying that he or she is doing an awesome job. I believe in providing you with positive feed back about your child. As parents, we all enjoying hearing

that our child is doing well. Please feel free to call me anytime or send me a note. I never want you to have a concern or a question that you do not address with me. I am here to help you and your child anyway I can.

Classroom Discipline

Establishing good classroom discipline is essential to each child's success, confidence and well-being. Every child should feel that the classroom environment is safe and secure, free from all threats of physical or emotional harm. In addition, it is important that each child learn to develop self-discipline and good work habits, to resolve conflicts peacefully, and to think independently.

They may forget what you said, but they will never forget how you made them feel.

Classroom Expectations

1. Be Safe
2. Be Respectful
3. Be Responsible

Rewards

For students who choose to follow our classroom expectations I will give verbal praise, positive notes, small rewards, and special class privileges.

Consequences

I use cards to help the children keep track of their behavior. All of the children have 5 colored cards. If a child chooses to break one of our classroom expectations he/she will flip a card. The card colors are as follows:

Green Great Day!

Yellow a warning given

Blue 10 minutes off of recess

Red 15 minutes off of recess and note home

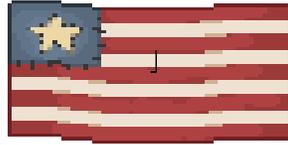
Black Visit with the principal

Communication Folder

I have provided a daily communication folder for your child. He/she will bring it to and from home/school daily. This folder is my way of communicating with you. In this folder, you will find notes from school, completed work, and a zip lock pouch for lunch money and book order money. If you need to send me a note, please place it in the folder.

The folder has 2 pockets, one marked "Keep" and the other marked "Return." The things placed on the KEEP side, I do not need it returned to school. The things placed in the RETURN side need to be read (sometimes signed) and placed back in the folder to be returned to school.

Because fourth grade is a big transitional year, I hope that this folder will help keep your child organized and help teach responsibility.



Classroom Parties

We will have three classroom parties during the school year. Parties will need to have a volunteer chairperson. The chairperson's job will include calling other parents and organizing the activities, snacks, drinks, etc. The parties are as followed:

Fall: Students will be allowed to dress up at our party. Costumes must follow school policy for dress up.

Winter: We will have a small gift exchange for students who want to participate.

Valentine's: We will exchange valentines. We will decorate our Valentine's bags together in class.

Information will be sent home regarding all parties closer to the date. Thanks for helping make our parties fun and exciting.

eMINTS

eMints stands for enhancing Missouri's Instructional Networked Teaching Strategies.

eMINTS is a computer-based program that will allow your child to learn to use the computer to enhance the learning experience. Using computers is a great opportunity to help your child grow and learn using the most up



Caption describing picture or graphic.

to date methods; however, there are many things that we will learn and do that do not involve using the computers.

Our district has spent a lot of time and money on this equipment. So along with this the privilege of learning in such an awesome way comes rules. Please review the computer use policy attached to this letter. Please go over the rules with your child. Please sign the policy along with your child. The rules in this policy will be strictly enforced in our classroom.

Schedule

Your child's regular and prompt attendance at school is crucial to his/her success. Most of the learning activities in fourth grade are group activities and involve interaction with classmates. It is very important your child attends everyday except in cases of illness or emergency.

In the past, the elementary has started at 8:35 and ended around 3:20. This year school will begin at 8:30 and end 3:30. If your child depends on bus transportation, he/she will be later arriving home.



Please refer to your student handbook for all specifics regarding the schedule. In addition, I have a tentative classroom schedule attached to the back of this newsletter.

Supply List

Pencils
Glue
Scissors
Ruler
Markers
Crayons
Colored Pencils

School Box
5 Folders
2 Red Pens
PE shoes
Lined Paper
1" 3 Ring Binder
Wipes (optional)

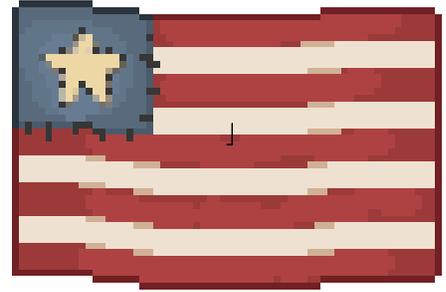
Backpack
Erasers
Protractor
Highlighter
Small deodorant
2 Spiral Notebooks



Hartville

Accelerated Reader

The Accelerated Reader Program is an easy-to-use computer-based tool that inspires kids to read more books that are on their level. It's based on three simple steps that form the foundation for self-paced, individualized reading. Each student selects his or her own reading material, and then reads at a comfortable pace. When the book is completed, the student works through a computerized multiple-choice test. The program provides an instant score and immediate reinforcement in a way that's both encouraging and fun.



Transportation

Please provide the school with a notice when your child has arrangements for going home which are different than usual. Without a written note or phone call, I am required to send your child home the usual way. If you must check your child out of school early, you must check in at the office first. I cannot release a child to anyone without a note from the office.



Life is not measured by the number of breaths we take, but by the moments that take our breath away.

In closing, I would like you to know that I am very excited to have the opportunity and privilege to work with your child. I will work very hard everyday to ensure that your child's learning experience is positive. Please don't hesitate to contact me with any questions or concerns that you may have. I am looking forward to a great year. Thank you in advance for your concern and support throughout the year!

Lori Cunningham

Phone: 417-741-7676

Ext. 112

cunninghaml@hartville.k12.mo.us

