

Dear Parents,

Hello! I am Mr. Burgos, your child's 4th grade teacher. I know this year will be filled with many wonderful learning experiences for your child. This letter is just to inform you of our room policies and expectations. Together we will make this an amazing year.

Responsibilities and Expectations

1. Student:

- Your child is expected to bring home their assignment notebook everyday to be signed by you. This shows what homework they have due for the following day.
- When your child is absent it is his / her responsibility to make-up all missed work. (I will always be available for help, but will not give constant reminders)
- Students are allowed to bring a **nutritious snack** in the morning and encouraged to have a water bottle.
- Students are responsible for all homework and projects assigned to them.

****Note:** on occasion the students will be allowed to use homework passes as rewards for good behavior and completion of other assignments.

2. Parent:

- It is my hope that you check your child's assignment notebook and ask them about their work. I also hope that as a parent you focus on your child's successes. Point out what they are doing well and have them explain how they got that right.
- Finally, I hope you communicate with me anytime you have a question or concern about what we are doing in class or how you could help at home.

3. Teacher:

- Expect me to prepare all these students for a successful present and future. Expect me to communicate with you on a regular basis your child's progress, and expect me to provide a safe and positive learning environment for all my students.

Policies and Rules

In order for me to maintain a safe and positive learning environment for every student our school and classroom have rules and guidelines. If your child chooses to break one of our rules there will be consequences attached to the infraction. My goal is that all my students make smart choices, but when they don't, I want them to realize there are consequences for their actions so they have the opportunity to learn.

On the positive side, our class will be rewarded for appropriate behavior. Throughout the next year your child will begin engaging in many more group-oriented activities and learning that focus on social skills and teamwork. So it is important that their behavior affects the rest of the class in a positive manner.

Below is a copy of our Social Contract that we all signed. It was a document we worked on together the first week of school to help foster a safe and fun learning environment.

We pledge that we are here to learn, have fun, and become a better person. We would like our teachers to treat us kindly, with respect, and be both helpful and understanding. Likewise we will treat our teachers with kindness, respect, and be fair. We will treat others with kindness, respect and treat them the way we would want to be treated. Finally, we promise to work out our problems when they arise by talking them out, sharing our feelings, walking away, or telling an adult.
Signed,

Homework Policy

I do not generally give a lot of homework. When homework is given, it is important that it comes back completed. There will always be class time to begin an assignment in case any questions come up. Please read through the following guidelines about homework.

*Homework should be turned in on time.

*If homework is not completed, a "HOMEWORK ALERT" will be attached to the assignment notebook, noting the missing assignment. This slip is to come back signed the next day. If I notice that a student is habitually not doing their homework you might be contacted for a conference.

*In the case that homework could not be done, due to a family emergency, a parent may contact me or send a note explaining the circumstances.

Curriculum

This year we will be learning many cool new things. Here is a glance at what we have in store this year:

Math - We will focus on problems solving, geometry, fractions, decimals, and review, multiplication, division, measurement, subtraction, and place value.

Reading - Much time will be devoted to various themed units. We will read some excellent novels and explore historical fiction. We focus on strategy instruction and analyzing literary components such as character development and story plot.

Language Arts - We will strive to become excellent descriptive, expository, and narrative writers. We will also learn the art of writing letters, explore some poetry.

Social Studies - We will study the regions of the United States and explore our state history, geography, and government.

Science- your child will perform experiments, discover electricity and magnetism, conduct investigations and explore the oceans.

****For a more detailed list of all the topics we will be exploring this year, please see the Whitefish Bay District 4th grade Curriculum Overview.**

Special Classes

To help prepare you and your child, here is a list of the days that we attend specials.

Physical Education: Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday

Music: Monday & Wednesday

Art: Monday

Orchestra: Friday

Spanish: Tuesday & Thursday

Library: Tuesday

Thursday Folder

Every Thursday, your child will bring home a folder with corrected papers, important notes from the office, and a weekly message from me about upcoming classroom/school events. Although some notes will come home in agendas throughout the week, most of them will be in this folder. Parents must sign and return this folder by Friday each week.

Volunteers

As a parent if you are interested in being a chaperone on one of our field trips please contact our Room Parents.

WKCE

This year your child will participate in the Wisconsin test of Knowledge and Concepts (WKCE). The test will take place in November and cover Math, Reading, Writing, Social Studies, and Science. As we prepare your child for the test we will be sending information for you to help your child prepare at home.

Questions or Concerns???

I feel it is very important for parents and teachers to communicate on a regular basis. There are several ways to keep in touch!

*Write a note in your child's agenda (Please look for my notes home as well!)

*Call me at school at 963-3943. (I arrive at school by 7:30 am and I am usually around until 4:00 pm.)

*Set up a time for us to meet in person (Either before school or after school)

*E-mail me at adan.burgos@wfbschools.com

I hope this letter has given you a good overview of all the fun material we will be learning this year. Again, feel free to contact me if you have any questions. Please, sign and return the attached sheet and return it with your child.

Sincerely,

Mr. Burgos