

# Welcome to 4th Grade

Dear Families,

We are so excited to officially welcome you to what we hope will be one of your very best and most memorable years at SMES, 4th grade! We can't wait to get to know you and welcome you to our team! We have compiled a list of procedures and routines to help acclimate you to 4th grade.

## Daily Schedule

Arrival: 8:30-8:40
Specials: 10:20-11:05
Lunch: Beck, Glass, Tidwell: 12:26-12:56 Bauer, Wyrick, Yaw: 12:30-1:00
Dismissal: 2:40

\*\* for safety and security reasons please follow all arrival and dismissal procedures at all times. These will be in your take home folders and on the website under the arrival and dismissal button.

## Specials Schedule

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
STEAM Academy	<u>Art:</u> Glass, Wyrick <u>Music:</u> Wyrick, Yaw <u>PE:</u> Bauer, Beck, Tidwell	<u>Art:</u> Wyrick, Yaw <u>Music:</u> Glass, Wyrick <u>PE:</u> Bauer, Beck, Tidwell
Thursday	Friday	*** Students will not have specials on early release days***
<u>Art:</u> Bauer, Beck <u>Music:</u> Beck, Tidwell <u>PE:</u> Glass, Wyrick, Yaw	<u>Art:</u> Beck, Tidwell <u>Music:</u> Bauer, Beck <u>PE:</u> Glass, Wyrick, Yaw	

**Class Dojo**-At Sanders, we would like to maintain a positive learning environment for your child. In order to encourage positive behavior, our class will be using Class Dojo to help build student's learning habits and boost classroom engagement. Class Dojo allows students, parents and teachers to track student behavior, learning skills and progress at school throughout the day!

If you are new to Sanders, you will receive a code to create a Dojo parent account. In the parent account, you can view your child's behavior on your phone, tablet or computer at anytime.

Students will earn positive points for following class and school rules. They can also earn points for displaying any of the Seven Habits. Students accounts will be alerted when they are not following class and school rules. Students will be able to use their dojo points in class for incentives and will also have the opportunity to receive school-wide rewards.

**Class Dojo is a vital form of communication between school and home. We will be using this to send messages and share photos. All communication for 4th grade will be sent exclusively through Class Dojo. It is SMES expectations that ALL parents At the beginning of each task we will send a task newsletter. This will give you information about what standards we are covering, the task, upcoming tests etc.**

**Throughout the task we will share important information about our week, upcoming events, field trips, celebrations etc.**

Please be sure to sign up if you have not. This will ensure open communication and help to maintain a positive classroom environment! Please remember that teachers have **24 hours** to respond to a message.

**Computers**-Technology is an integral part of our curriculum and it is absolutely imperative that students have their devices in order to complete classwork. **All students must also have a pair of headphones or earbuds (we prefer plugin earbuds).**

**Differentiation**- The fourth-grade team uses a variety of models to enrich and support students to meet their needs and identified services. Students will receive support through: team-teaching (movement throughout the pod), small groups, and push-in. Different models will be provided throughout the day and given based on the needs of the students in each subject area and topic.

**Dismissal**- Any changes in transportation will **only** occur through the parents **notifying the front office**. DOJO will not be utilized for transportation changes. All transportation changes need to be communicated to the front office by 2:15 pm. No changes will be allowed after 2:15 pm.

### **Field Trips-**

- Quarter 1: Gem Mining- In house field trip
- Quarter 2: Tampa History Museum
- Quarter 3: EMC
- Quarter 4: St. Augustine 3/26/2020 at of cost of about \$70 for students and about \$40 for chaperones.

**YOU MUST BE AN APPROVED VOLUNTEER IN ORDER TO ATTEND FIELD TRIPS. Siblings are not permitted to attend our field trips.**

### **Five Things SMES Asks of Our Parents:**

1. If you feel that there is a problem with the teacher or the style of teaching, do not call The Administration. Call the teacher first and give her a chance to discuss the concerns with you.
2. If you need to talk to your teacher, send a note/email/Class Dojo message. The teacher will write you back to discuss or answer any question you may have within 24 hours. Do not show up at the classroom door unannounced for a conference.
3. Do not allow your child to be late or miss school for anything other than sickness or a death in the family. Allowing your child to miss school because he/she needs a haircut or go clothes shopping with you is sending the wrong message to children.
4. Please realize that your child is one of many that our teachers teach in a day, and that it is not always possible to address each and every need he or she may have. The sole responsibility of educating children is not the Teacher's alone; it is the parents/care givers as well.
5. Trust our staff and teachers as they know what they are doing.

**Go Home Folders**-Your child will bring their folder home every day. Please be sure to check for important papers or graded work to take them out of the folder. All assessments must be signed and returned.

**Homework**-Starting the second week of school, students will receive weekly homework. Homework will be assigned on Friday and due the following Friday. All 4th grade students will have the following homework:

- ❑ **Reading**-Students will be assigned one passage on readworks.org weekly. All students will need to log in at home and complete and submit the assignment. *They will be given their log-in during class.*
- ❑ **Math**-Math homework will be assigned on a nightly basis. Your child will be keeping their Math HW book in their book bags or at home. Please allow your child to complete his/her homework independently. We do not have any extra math books; therefore, it is imperative that your child does not lose or damage their book. ***If they are struggling, make a note and send it back to school THE NEXT DAY.***
- ❑ **Writing**-Writing homework will be assigned as a packet and given to students every Friday.

All students have access to all academic links through MyPascoConnect. Students will need to know their login information and password. We will be adding buttons/active links as we see the need. This means that from any computer they can access their accounts for Zearn, Florida Studies Weekly, Prodigy, etc.

\*\*Please let us know if your child is struggling on something.

**Lunch**- Lunch with your child Please feel free to come and have lunch with your child or children. Lunch time with your child or children will only be with them and not with their friends. Parents will sit with their child or children at the designated Parent Tables. Please remember that going to lunch with your child too much can inhibit their social growth with their peers.

**SMES Website**- For all up to date information regarding school functions, policies and other happenings, please check out the school website once a week! [www.smes.pasco.k12.fl.us](http://www.smes.pasco.k12.fl.us)

**Volunteering**- Volunteers must be approved through the county. Volunteer applications need to be updated each school year. We encourage you to fill out an application so that you are able to chaperone field trips and help out with school functions. If you are interested in volunteering, please fill out the application online at <http://www.pasco.k12.fl.us/com/volunteer/>. You will be notified once you are approved. If you are not notified, please contact the front office at SMES or the District Office.

**Your Child's Birthdays**-Birthdays are special days for all of our students. With this in mind we would like to be able to recognize birthdays without disrupting the instructional time in the classroom. Therefore, student birthdays will be recognized in their classroom by the teacher/school as they will receive a crown and a coupon from the cafeteria for a snack. With this said, we will not be permitting birthday parties and celebrations at school in the classroom. This includes bringing cupcakes, balloons and other treats from home. Also, if you are passing out birthday invitations at school, please make sure that all students in the class are invited. If you only want to invite certain students, please pass the invitations out outside of school.

Thank you so much for taking the time to get to know the procedures and routines in fourth grade. We are looking forward to having a wonderful year collaborating and becoming 21<sup>st</sup> century learners!

Your Eager and Excited Fourth Grade Team,

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