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:**

9:00 - Students allowed on campus

9:10 - Students enter classroom

9:20 - Late Bell

**Specials:** 10:50-11:35

**Lunch:** 1:45-2:15

**Dismissal:** 3:20

**\*\* 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 10:45-11:30** | | | | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Monday** | **Tuesday** | **Wednesday** | **Thursday** | **Friday** |
| **Music:** Stern and Sadonis  **Art:** Yaw  **PE:** Glass, Pritchard, Rich | **Music:** Yaw  **Art:** Stern and Sadonis  **PE:** Glass, Pritchard, Rich | **Music:** Rich  **Art:** Glass, Pritchard  **PE:** Yaw, Stern and Sadonis | **Music:** Glass, Pritchard  **Art:** Rich  **PE:** Yaw,Stern and Sadonis | **Fitness Friday** |

**Communication and Photos:**

* At SMES, we would like to maintain a positive learning environment for your child. In order to encourage positive behavior, the district has moved to utilizing myStudent or the myStudent classroom app for communication. Please be sure you are listed as your child’s primary contact to receive communication. If you have any questions or concerns, please visit the Pasco County Schools website at [www.pasco.k12.fl.us](http://www.pasco.k12.fl.us)
* **This will be the ONLY form of digital communication between school and home, with the exception of paper copies coming home as needed. We will be using this to send messages. All communication for 4th grade will be sent exclusively through myStudent.** Please remember that teachers have **24 hours** to respond to a message.
* We will also post a “Week at a Glance” on the SMES website each week. This will give you information about what standards we are covering, the task, optional homework, upcoming tests, important dates, etc. ***Our “Week at a Glance” and homework links will also be available on the website. To find this please go: parents → 4th grade → Week at a Glance.***
* We understand the importance of capturing and sharing memorable moments from your child's school experience here at Sanders Memorial. With Photo Circle, teachers will regularly share photos and highlights from school and classroom activities, events, classroom learning, etc. This platform will provide you with a glimpse into your child's daily experiences and achievements within our school community. Please be sure to download the **Photo Circle App**. Your child’s teacher will send an email through my student with the link to join the class photo circle. Please note that when you completed the Parental Bill of Rights if you selected the ***limited permission option*** for Photo/Media, it states that “I give consent for my child’s image to be used in the yearbook, in school publications, and in connection with their participation in extracurricular and sporting events. **I do not give** consent for my child’s image and name to be in print, video, and other public media, which may be shared and used outside of the educational environment.” Photo circle has a private link that will be shared with families in the classroom. We will not publish these images outside of these photo circles. With **"limited permission"** we will **NOT** be able to take pictures of your child and upload them to Photo Circle. If you would like to review or update your option on the Parental Bill of Rights you may do so in your parent portal.

**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 will be using a DELL computer this year. **All students must also have a pair of headphones or earbuds (we prefer plugin, NO BLUETOOTH).**

**Dismissal**:

* Any changes in transportation will **only** occur through the parents **notifying the front office**. All transportation changes need to be communicated to the front office by 2:45 pm.

**Field Trips**:

* These are the field trips that we are anticipating. They are subject to change and we will communicate with you as soon as we have them finalized.
  + Wild Florida (In house field trip, cost is TBD)
  + EMC (Free field trip through district. No chaperones needed.)
  + Diamond Del (In house field, the cost is approximately $15).
  + Tampa Bay History Center (Cost for students is approximately $25, chaperones limited to 2 per class)
  + St. Augustine, March 12th, 2025 at a cost of about $90 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.**

**Take 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.

**Homework**:

* Homework will be posted on the SMES website under 4th grade. Homework will not be graded and will not affect their overall grade.

**Lunch:**

* The Cafe SMES will be returning this year! Any parent interested in attending lunch with their child will be asked to make a reservation by calling the front office at (813)794-1500. Please note, the week before each holiday break reservations will be unavailable. As a reminder, breakfast and lunches are free of charge for all students.

**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)) ***Our newsletter and homework links will also be available on the website. To find this please click: Parents → 4th grade → Week at a Glance.***

**Volunteering:**

* Volunteers must be approved through the county and beginning this year will require fingerprinting in addition to the online application. Volunteer applications need to be updated each school year. We encourage you to fill out an application and schedule fingerprinting so that you are able to chaperone field trips and help out with school functions. If you are interested in volunteering, please visit the Pasco District volunteer website at <http://www.pasco.k12.fl.us/com/volunteer/> for additional information. 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 Birthday:**

* 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. 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. If you would like to place an order through the Cafeteria for birthday treats for your child’s class during lunch, please contact Adelle Ahearn at [aahearn@pasco.k12.fl.us](mailto:aahearn@pasco.k12.fl.us). (Orders must be placed 10 days prior to the class celebration.)

Thank you so much for taking the time to get to know the procedures and routines in 4th grade! We are looking forward to having a wonderful year together and becoming 21st century learners!

Your Eager and Excited Fourth Grade Team,

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