Ms. Buckingham

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A note from the teacher…

Hello, my name is Crystal Buckingham. I’m thrilled to be teaching FOURTH GRADE this year! I was born in North Georgia and raised in Jasper, GA after I was adopted at the age of 7. I received my Bachelor's Degree at the University of North Georgia and my first Master’s Degree from Valdosta State University. I am currently working on my second Master’s Degree for Education. This is my second year teaching Fourth Grade, and I'm excited to teach fourth grade this year. I’ve been a Substitute Teacher for over 10 years prior to teaching full time. I believe I’ll be a great asset to fourth grade because I have a passion for children, and I believe that all children can learn. My goal is to help students develop the knowledge, skills, and experiences they must have to become proficient in all subjects and to prepare them for life outside of the classroom. I love crocheting, reading, drinking coffee, and spending time with my family! Finally, I also have a German Shepherd Husky mix fur baby.

Communication:

Communication is vital. You can use the above email to email your child’s teacher. For instant electronic communication purposes, we will use Class Dojo. This app will allow us to share messages, pictures, and videos. Class Dojo also has a built-in behavior management component that the teacher can use to award points for positive behaviors and deduct for negative behaviors. Teachers will sign parent(s) up for the app using the phone numbers that are provided. Please be reminded that it may take a little while to respond, especially if we are teaching during the day.

**Welcome to Fourth Grade**



Course Content:

**Math:**

Students will focus on all four major math components: addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division to solve multi-step word problems involving multi-digit numbers. [Fourth-grade math](https://www.today.com/parenting-guides/4th-grade-math-tips-t177789) extends their understanding of fractions, including equal (equivalent) fractions and ordering fractions. Students will add and subtract fractions with the same denominator (bottom number), multiply fractions by whole numbers and understand relationships between fractions and decimals.

Fourth Grade Big Ideas

**Math**

**Unit 0 – Think Like a Mathematician**

* Students will use place value to round to the nearest hundred and be able to explain how to round numbers to the nearest hundred.

**Unit 1 – Making Relevant Connections with Place Value Understanding, Addition and Subtraction of Whole Numbers**

* Students will build a foundational understanding of numeracy relating to place value and addition and subtraction of whole numbers.

**Unit 2 – Exploring Real-Life Phenomena through Patterning and Algebraic Thinking**

* This unit contains tasks relating to numeral and shape patterns, factors, multiples, as well as prime and composite numbers.

**Unit 3 – Reasoning about Multiplication and Division**

* Students will learn experiences relating to the multiplication and division of whole numbers.

**Unit 4 – Investigating Fractions and Decimals**

* Students will investigate the relationship between fractions and decimals to solve contextual, real-life problems.

**Unit 5 – Building Conceptual Understanding of Angle Measurement**

* Students will explore and use angle measurement in a variety of contexts.

**Unit 6 – Reasoning with Shapes**

* Students will explore the attributes of two-dimensional shapes and solve problems involving area and perimeter.

**Unit 7 – Culminating Capstone Unit**

Students will apply knowledge learned to create a presentation, report, or demonstration that could include models used to answer an overarching driving question.

Instructional Materials:

**Text(s):**

**Math:** Ready Classroom Math

**Software:** i-Ready Math and Reading, First in Math, Boddle, Splash Learn

Grade Communication

Signed papers will be sent home weekly. Each Friday afternoon look in your child’s folder for the signed papers packet. Please review the papers with your child, sign the top cover sheet, and return the ENTIRE packet the following Monday. If you have a question, comment, or concern please write a note on the cover sheet or contact your child’s teacher.

Grading

Grades are recorded using Infinite Campus. Grades will be recorded in a timely manner. Please understand that some assignments require a longer grading period than others.

A 90-100

B 80-89

C 70-79

D 60-69

 F 59 and below

These categories are used across all content areas - Math, English Language Arts, and Social Studies/Science. If you have any questions regarding grading please let your child’s teacher know.

Homework:

Homework is used to sharpen and review skills that are being taught so that it can help to build understanding. It can also be a time to connect with your child to learn what they are learning in school. Homework is used to sharpen and review skills that are being taught so that it can help to build understanding. It can also be a time to connect with your child to learn what they are learning in school.

Homework will be assigned for Monday-Thursday and students are expected to complete the homework assignments and bring back to school by Friday. We will discuss the homework during the week to clear up any misunderstandings.

What should you expect for homework?

* Math - Students will receive a spiral math review paper that will review the fourth-grade math standards.

iReady

As you may know we use i-Ready to help students gain knowledge in content areas. But what is i-Ready really?

 “***i-Ready Instruction:*** *i-Ready* provides students digital instruction that meets them where they are–at their level. It allows them to work independently on their own personalized online instruction plan, in lessons that are assigned based on the results from the *i-Ready Diagnostic* test.

 The lessons include three parts, consisting of a tutorial, guided practice, and a graded activity. This exciting format and engaging content draws students in right away. Students get supportive, real-time feedback on their progress in each skill; they see motivating messages and earn credits after completing lessons, which builds their

investment in learning.” <http://i-readycentral.com/familycenter/what-is-i-ready/>

 Students are encouraged to use i-Ready for 45 minutes a week in **both** Math and Reading. Students will work on i-Ready while at school and are highly encouraged to work on i-Ready at home. Time completed will be noted with signed papers, so parents/guardians are made aware if your child is meeting the 45 minute time goal each week.

Class Participation:

Students are expected to participate in class each day. Participating means being in class, listening to instructions and explanations for class work, completing classroom tasks, asking questions when necessary, answering questions when asked, cooperating, and following classroom policies. Essentially, class participation is doing your best to learn and help others learn while allowing the teacher to teach.

Class Attendance - Arrival and Dismissal:

Students are expected to arrive to school on time each day. Breakfast is served from 7:45 am -8:10 a.m. The instructional day begins at 8:20.

Students who arrive after 8:20 am will be considered tardy. If your child is tardy to school, please make sure that you walk them into the school and sign them in with the office.

If for any reason your child is absent from school, please let your child’s teacher know. Please be reminded that when your child returns to school after an absence, you should also send in a written explanation for that absence. These notes must be turned in the office. Be aware that RCBOE has a protocol regarding the number of absences our child can accumulate, so please refer to the Student Handbook to find the most current policy.

If your child’s mode of transportation changes, a written note **MUST** be sent to your child’s teacher. Text messages **will not** be accepted as a written note because your child’s teacher may not see the message. If there is a true emergency, you can call the office so that they can better assist.

Classroom Expectations:

**Along with the posted Class Rules, you are expected to:**

* be in class on time and ready to learn.
* come to class prepared every day (green folder and agenda).
* show respect to others (the teacher, classmates, and other adults)
* be courteous to others.
* be an active participant in class activities.

'Behavior Management Plan for Ms. Buckingham’s class

Graded papers will go home on every Friday. The conduct sheet will come home weekly on Friday. The conduct sheet and graded papers will be inside their conduct folder. The conduct sheet will be reporting any disciplinary problems that may have occurred that week. **Parents are expected to sign and have the students return the conduct sheet and graded papers the following Monday.**

We believe communication between parents and teachers is very imperative. Feel free to call the school, email, or text via the Class Dojo App regarding any concerns or questions. Graded papers will go home on every Friday. The conduct sheet will come home weekly on Friday. The conduct sheet will report any disciplinary problems that may have occurred that week. **Parents are expected to sign and have the students return the conduct sheet and graded papers the following Monday.**

What happens when there are behavioral issues during instructional time?

* **First Time:**
	+ Verbal Warning/ Redirect Student
* **Second Time:**
	+ Verbal Warning
	+ Parent Phone Call / Text
* **Third Time:**
	+ Complete Redirection Activity
	+ Teacher Conference
	+ Parent Phone Call
	+ Time Out
* **Fourth Time:**
	+ Referral to Guidance
	+ Parent Phone Call
* **Fifth Time:**
	+ Intervention Plan
	+ Parent Conference
* **Sixth Time (SEVERE DISRUPTION):**
	+ Immediate Office Referral

# Positive Reinforcements

* Verbal Praise
* Smile, hug, pat on the back
* Stickers
* Candy
* Notes/Calls Home  Class Treats
* Class Dojo Points

Additional resources for my class can be found on Goshen’s webpage under my name.

We look forward to a successful fourth-grade school year with your child.

♥The Fourth Grade Team

 Ms. Buckingham, Ms. Walden, Mrs. McGriff

Student Signature\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_