

# Back to School Night

4<sup>th</sup> Grade

August 30, 2017

Dear Parents,

Welcome and thank you for attending Back to School Night! I am thrilled to have such a wonderful class of 4<sup>th</sup> graders. I know that with hard work and patience we will have a wonderful year together.

## 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Curriculum:

- Religion: RCL Benziger's *Blest Are We*
- Math: Sadlier-Oxford, *Progress in Mathematics* (Workbook is Common Core aligned) and Accelerated Math
- Science: Houghton Mifflin, *California Science*
- Social Studies: Houghton Mifflin, *Oh California!* and Nystrom, *Junior Geographer Atlas*
- Art: "Meet the Masters"
- Language Arts:
  - Reading - Novel based units, Burdett & Ginn, *Silver Secrets Anthology*, and Accelerated Reader
  - Grammar/Writing - Houghton Mifflin, *English* and Newmark Learning, Common Core Language
  - Spelling - Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, Core Skills Spelling

## Field Trips:

Although no field trips have been booked, there are 2 being planned for the school year. I plan for students to go on a field trip to Mission San Juan Capistrano as we finish up the Mission Unit in Social Studies. I also plan a field trip to Knott's Berry Farm as we finish the Gold Rush Unit. Your willingness to chaperone both field trips is greatly appreciated!

\*NO chaperoning spots will be held or reserved for any parents at this time. I will send out an interest form once field trips are booked. There are no priority spots. Chaperones are chosen on a first-come, first-served basis, then by lottery. Thank you for your understanding!

\* If you are a chaperone on a field trip, please be aware that due to timing, safety, and insurance reasons, you MAY NOT make any additional stops before, during, or after the field trip (Starbucks, ice cream, fast food, etc.). Please do not provide any "treats" for the students in your group, and do not allow students to eat in your vehicle. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

## Mission Project/Report:

Although students are encouraged to visit a mission of their choice with their family, it is not required that students visit a mission on their own. Students will complete a mission report and project, but the directions to the report will be given out at a later time. Additionally, adult help on the mission replicas during class time is greatly appreciated. I will send out an email in Dec./Jan. with details.

### Homework:

As stated in the school policy, homework should not exceed 1 hour per night, given the student works in a calm, quiet environment without many distractions. Students will write down all homework in their school planners. Planners should be checked everyday. With the exception of at-home projects, most homework will be started in the classroom and finished at home. Failure to turn in homework on time may result in loss of privileges, lowering of grades in that subject and work habits, infractions and/or detentions.

### Accelerated Reader/Accelerated Math:

Students will be given an AR goal at the beginning of each quarter. Students are usually given 20–30 minutes in class to read from AR books each day. Students are expected to read an additional 20 minutes every weeknight for homework. AR goals will NOT be adjusted throughout the quarter. Students are given AM assignments and tests throughout each quarter. Usually class time is set aside to complete these assignments, however AM assignments may be occasionally sent home as homework. Students will bring home TOPS reports on a regular basis, which will be filed under the “Home” section of the expanding folder.

### Tests/Quizzes:

Students will take tests regularly throughout the school year in all subjects. Tests and quizzes for the week will often be posted the previous Friday, and no later than Monday. If a student misses a test, he/she may be required to stay after school to make it up. Once tests/quizzes are graded, they will be handed back to students and filed in their expanding folder under “Signed Tests.” Please sign and return any test with a “Please Sign and Return” stamp the next school day.

### Behavior and Work Habits:

Students are given two points per day for behavior and two points per day for work habits. If students are not consistent with behavior and/or work habit expectations, they may lose one or several points for that day. The points will be given as a grade on Gradelink at the end of the week. Students must comply with the school discipline policy. Students also receive a weekly Mass behavior grade. Students must participate in Mass to receive full points. Bathroom and drinking fountain usage is considered part of the work habits grade. Students have two bathroom passes per week. After those have been used, students will receive one point off their work habits grade for the week for each additional trip to the bathroom or drinking fountain. A doctor’s note is necessary for students who need to use the restroom more often. Just a reminder that class expectations/rules have been sent home and signed by parents and students. A copy of our class-created rules has been attached.

### Weekly Schedule:

A copy of the weekly schedule will be given on a separate sheet. These times are approximate and may be adjusted as necessary.

## Reading /Literature Information:

Throughout the year, our reading curriculum will consist of alternating a variety of sources, including novel studies, teacher-created resources, and Scholastic Storyworks magazines. Designed for ELA Standards, *Storyworks* combines exciting, complex texts with rigorous support materials to build the skills our students need most. A wide range of genres includes informational and narrative nonfiction, short fiction, poetry, debates, and read-aloud plays based on myths, classic literature, and history. Paired texts explore one topic or theme through two or more genres, requiring students to synthesize, analyze, and make meaningful cross-genre connections. While studying Storyworks (Quarters 2 & 4), students will be reading, analyzing, and discussing articles, followed by a short comprehension quiz and critical thinking questions. In this way, Storyworks does not lend itself to taking end-of-unit tests in the way novels do. For this reason, there will not be a TEST category during the quarters in which we use Storyworks. Though these sources are vastly different, they all contribute to a well-rounded reading program. In order to ensure fairness when it comes to students' grades, the Reading/Literature weights on Gradelink will change throughout the quarters. Though these weights may be subject to change, they are planned to be adjusted as follows:

### **Quarters 1 & 3:**

Accelerated Reader – 25%

Class Work – 15%

Homework – 15%

Quizzes – 20%

Tests/Projects – 25%

### **Quarters 2 & 4:**

Accelerated Reader – 25%

Classwork – 20%

Homework – 25%

Quizzes – 30%

## Lunch:

I want to say thank you in advance to those families who are able to help supervise at recess and lunch. It is greatly appreciated! That being said, there are a few reminders and policies for lunchtime. ALL supervisors need to sign in and out through the office and obtain a visitor's badge. Students need to bring their own lunch each day. Any late lunch brought from home throughout the school day must be taken through the office. Absolutely no fast food will be allowed at lunch. Any students who have fast food brought to them will receive a work habits infraction.

### Birthdays:

Parents may bring a birthday treat for their child to share with the class on or around his or her birthday. This includes individual ice cream, cookies, cupcakes, etc. The entire class is NOT to be provided with lunch to celebrate a birthday at school. Please let me know in advance if you are bringing a treat or sending one with your child. Furthermore, if you are unable to stay for the treat, please make sure to let your child know what to do with leftovers (i.e. hand them out to teachers, siblings, take home, leave at EDC). If your child has allergies and/or you do not want your child to have birthday treats that others bring in, please let me know.

### SOAR Hours:

Some opportunities may arise to earn SOAR Hours by helping out in 4<sup>th</sup> grade. These opportunities may include organizing Scholastic Book Club orders, Bake Sale, class parties, lunch supervision, etc. Any SOAR Hours being submitted for 4<sup>th</sup> grade activities MUST be signed by Miss Williams before being turned in to the office. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

### Remind 101:

I have adopted a fantastic program that sends out quick reminders via text message or email. This program may be used in case of emergencies at school, as well as reminders about homework, tests, Mass, field trips, etc. However, this program will not be used to remind parents/students about each assignment, quiz, test, etc. It is still the students' responsibility to write down all tests, quizzes, and homework in planners. More information has been provided on a separate sheet.

### Contact Miss Williams:

Please feel free to contact me anytime with any questions, comments, or concerns. I check my email everyday, which is [4grade@stcyprianschool.org](mailto:4grade@stcyprianschool.org). I am also available to meet before or after school. Please call the school office or email me if you would like to make an appointment. PLEASE log-in to Gradelink ASAP and double check that your email address and street address are correct and up to date.

**Thank you!**

# 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Class Rules

## 2017-2018

1. Treat others the way you want to be treated and always be kind.
2. Work hard and never give up.
3. Be honest.
4. Follow directions the first time.
5. Listen, raise your hand to speak, and don't distract others.
6. Always take turns and play fairly.
7. Be respectful.

### Rewards:

- ❖ Verbal praise
- ❖ Tickets (individual behavior management system)
  - Teacher organizes "Class Store" every quarter, where students can use tickets to buy treats, toys, etc.
- ❖ Table Points (group behavior management system)
  - Table group with the most points at the end of the week picks a prize from Miss Williams' Treasure Box
- ❖ Class Rewards
  - Movie afternoon, Bubble Gum Party, etc.
- ❖ Stickers
- ❖ Free choice time
- ❖ Teacher's choice

### Consequences:

- ❖ Verbal Warning/Teacher's choice
- ❖ Loss of Tickets (from individual behavior management system)
- ❖ Lowering of behavior/work habits/subject grades
- ❖ Bench time during recess (maximum 5 minutes)
- ❖ Infraction
- ❖ Detention
- ❖ Parent Contact
- ❖ Visit to Principal's Office

\*Reminder: These rules were created by our class during the first week of school. Rules were written down on "Expectations" sheet and signed by parents and students during the first week as well. Please let me know if you have any questions. Thank you for your support and cooperation!

# Stay in the Loop with "Remind"

Dear 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Students and Parents,

With so much going on in our busy days it is not always the most convenient to check the numerous emails that we get daily. There are many times when the students and/or parents may need a last minute reminder about what to bring for a field trip, or even just a quick note on what to wear for formal mass. This year I am continuing a program in which you will register to receive quick announcements/reminders via text message. This will also be extremely beneficial in the case of a school emergency. If you do not have an unlimited text message plan you can also register for the same reminder to come through your email. Registering for both is not necessary. This program is completely confidential. I will never see your phone number, nor will you see mine. It is a safe and efficient way to communicate with families at one time, and I am so excited to utilize it this year. The most exciting part is that you may register as many recipients as you like! I am asking that all of my student's families register for this program.

## So how do I register?

To subscribe via SMS: Send a text to 81010

With the message: @e8427

You will then be prompted to enter your full name (not your child's name) so that I can see which families are subscribed. Once you send that information, you will begin receiving my updates.

To subscribe via Email: Send an email to [e8427@mail.remind.com](mailto:e8427@mail.remind.com)

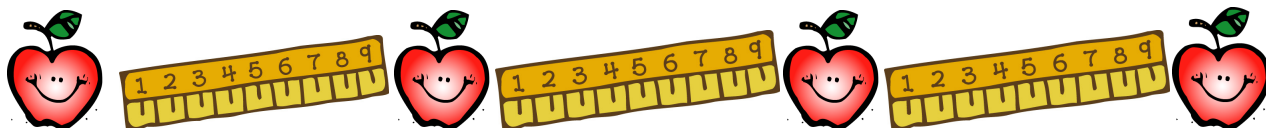
You can leave the subject blank. For the message you can simply write "Hello" and then send. You will then receive an email back to confirm your subscription. Once you confirm the link, you will begin receiving my updates.

Please keep in mind that each class has its own individual login. Therefore, please make sure to follow the specific login that I have provided. If you are registering for another teacher they will have a separate phone number and registration code.


If you have any questions feel free to email me at [4grade@stcyprianschool.org](mailto:4grade@stcyprianschool.org)

Thank you so much for your prompt attention to this matter!

God Bless,  
Miss Williams



Daily Class Schedule 2017-2018  
4<sup>th</sup> Grade

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
8:00 – 8:15 Journal, Prayer, Roll	8:00 – 8:15 Journal, Prayer, Roll	8:00 – 8:15 Journal, Prayer, Roll	8:00 – 8:15 Journal, Prayer, Roll	8:00 – 8:15 Journal, Prayer, Roll
8:15 – 8:45 Religion	8:15 – 8:45 Religion	8:30 – 9:00 Religion (Mass)	8:15 – 8:45 Religion	8:15 – 9:15 Reading
8:45 – 10:00 Reading	9:00 – 9:45 Reading	9:00 – 9:45 Reading	8:45 – 9:45 Reading	
	9:45 – 10:00 Spelling	9:45 – 10:00 Spelling	9:45 – 10:00 Spelling	9:15 – 10:00 English/L.A.
10:00 – 10:15 Recess	10:00 – 10:15 Recess	10:00 – 10:15 Recess	10:00 – 10:15 Recess	10:00 – 10:15 Recess
10:15 – 10:30 Read Aloud	10:15 – 10:45 Music	10:15 – 11:15 Computer/Library/AR	10:15 – 10:45 Music	10:15 – 10:45 Religion
10:30 – 11:15 English/L.A.	10:45 – 11:30 English/L.A.		10:45 – 11:30 English/L.A.	10:45 – 11:45 Math
11:15 – 12:15 Math	11:30 – 12:15 Math	11:15 – 12:15 Math	11:30 – 12:15 Math	11:45 – 12:00 SLE Reflection
12:15 – 12:50 Lunch	12:15 – 12:50 Lunch	12:15 – 12:50 Lunch	12:15 – 12:50 Lunch	12:00 – 12:30 PE
12:50 – 1:10 AR	12:50 – 1:10 AR	1:00 – 1:30 PE	12:50 – 1:10 AR	12:30– 12:45 HW, Clean Up, Prayer, Dismiss
1:10 – 2:35 Social Studies	1:10 – 2:35 Social Studies	1:30 – 2:35 Science	1:10 – 2:35 Science	
2:35 – 2:50 Scholarly Time/D.O.L.	2:35 – 2:50 Scholarly Time/D.O.L.	2:35 – 2:50 Scholarly Time/D.O.L.	2:35 – 2:50 Scholarly Time/D.O.L.	Faculty Meeting  
2:50 – 3:00 HW, Clean Up, Prayer, Dismiss	2:50 – 3:00 HW, Clean Up, Prayer, Dismiss	2:50 – 3:00 HW, Clean Up, Prayer, Dismiss	2:50 – 3:00 HW, Clean Up, Prayer, Dismiss	

\*Times are approximate and will be adjusted as necessary

\* Scholarly time is used at the beginning of the year for writing homework and packing up. Later in the year, scholarly time may be used for finishing lessons, AR, read aloud, homework, etc., but is not guaranteed homework time. Please let me know if you have any questions.