June 2023

Welcome to 4th Grade!



Dear Incoming 4th Grade Students and Parents,

Congratulations to all students for successfully completing the 3rd grade! We look forward to having all of you in 4th grade!

We realize summer vacation is a time to embody Habit 7 by S*harpening the Saw* and spending time with family. However, it's also important to make time for reading, writing, and math. Many children lose up to 2 months of learning over the summer and then have to scramble in August to catch-up while learning new 4th grade material. Let's try to avoid this learning loss by making time each week for the following activities to ensure minds stay sharp and are ready for 4th grade. We will hit the ground running the first week of school and we need *everyone* to be ready to go.

As educators, we recognize the greatest impact on student growth is when we are all together as a team: student, teacher, and parent. As teachers, we will do our best to engage and push each child forward on his/her educational path. As students, to recognize that effort and attitude make all the difference. Students have a responsibility to take ownership with their learning, classroom/school behavior, and maintain positive relationships with their peers. And as parents, to support their children through the good days and the tough days, reminding them that feelings of confusion and minor frustration are often signals to "keep pushing and keep learning!".

Read, Read, Read!

Reading is the foundation for all the work we will do together in 4th grade. Schedule some quiet time several days a week to keep up with favorite characters. Attached is the **Summer Reading List**. Students are expected to **read a minimum of 2 books from this list and complete corresponding activities**. These completed assignments will be **collected** and **graded** on the first day of school.

All students are encouraged to read more than these 2 books! Students can read additional titles from the list or from favorite authors. Please visit the public library and choose books that are of high interest and just right. The librarians are always happy to match children with the perfect book. Visit Chicago Public Libraries online for more information: http://www.chipublib.org/

Journaling

Keep a record of summer adventures by writing in a journal. Also take time to write creative new stories to practice the skills you learned in 3rd grade.

Math

It is ***imperative*** for all fourth grade students to quickly solve multi-digit addition and subtraction problems as well as recall the basic facts of multiplication, and division from memory. This quick recall will allow students to solve more complex problems like multi-digit multiplication and division problems and problems involving fractions. Please take time this summer to work with flashcards, on the computer, or activity sheets. We recommend students keep in the habit of using math vocabulary terms like sum, difference, product and quotient, rather than "the answer." This goes a surprisingly long way in preparing students for higher level math.

Example Problems: **5 x 6 =** **36 ÷ 9 =** **9 x 6 =** **64 ÷ 8 =**

Attached you will find a variety of math review sheets. The activities were selected based on the 3rd grade standards that need additional attention plus a few topics to extend understanding. This packet will be **collected and graded** on the first day of school.

IXL: Student accounts should be available throughout the summer. Please log on from time to time to work on Reading, Writing, and Math skills.

The 4th Grade School Supply list is attached.

Finally, the most important thing is to enjoy time with your family and stay safe over the summer.
We look forward to meeting you on **Monday, August 22nd.**

Sincerely,

Ms. Finke, Room 203
Ms. Ellis, Room 204
4th Grade Site: https://sites.google.com/cps.edu/4th-grade-murray-language-acad/home

4th Grade School Supplies



Dear Incoming 4th Grade Parents,
"Results from several independent studies conducted over the past ten years have pointed consistently to the relationship between successes in school, as well as socially, and strengths in executive function skills. Executive functions are the cognitive processes occurring in the frontal lobe area of the brain that allow one to plan, organize, make decisions, pay attention, regulate behavior, solve problems, and evaluate decisions."
Rush NeuroBehavioral Center

During the first few weeks of school, we will work with your child to support them in setting up an organizational system that will help them manage materials in 4th grade and beyond. Throughout the year we will further address executive functioning skills through lessons that teach: time management, study strategies, goal setting, and decision making strategies.

It is imperative that we start the year off on the right foot and that means having the materials ready to go the first day of school. Please review the list below, help your child to organize, and send the materials with your child Monday, August 22nd.. On the back, there are a few directions for organizing materials *before* bringing them to school.

We are looking forward to a great school year with you and your child!

4, 2-Pocket Poly Folder (Plastic so they last all year) ***blue, red, green, black***	**2 Black *Sharpie* Ultra Fine –** *see picture on other side*
3 Marble Composition Notebook	**Dry Erase Marker and Eraser** *For math slates*
1 Red Spiral Notebook	**2 Pencil Cases –** *Cloth/plastic type with zipper only.* ***No pencil boxes!***
Loose Leaf Paper - *(Wide-Rule) – replace as needed*	**Glue Sticks (3)**
3 Pencils *per day* -Ticonderoga or mechanical preferred ***replace as needed, children often go through upwards of 40 pencils a year (We're not kidding)***	**Scissors**
Small Pencil Sharpener *With a cover to collect shavings*	**Basic Calculator**
5 blue erasable pens *Replace as needed*	**2 Large Boxes of Tissues**
5 red pens *Replace as needed*	**1 Roll of Paper Towels**
Colored Pencils – *24 maximum*	**2 large containers of Clorox Wet Wipes**
Crayons – *24 maximum*	**Zip-lock Bags – *Boys please bring a box of gallon size bags, Girls please bring a box of quart size bags***
Highlighter – *yellow or orange*	
1 Ream of Copy Paper	

Please help your child to organize the following materials *before* bringing them to school. *Please remove pencils, pens, glue sticks, etc from packaging to save space and place them in the appropriate pencil cases.*

Label Notebooks and Folders

Please label each item. **Place the label on the *upper right-hand corner* of the item.**

- **Green 2-Pocket Poly Folder** — **Child's Full Name, Homework**
- **Blue 2-Pocket Poly Folder** — **Child's Full Name, Reading**
- **Marble Composition Notebook #1** — **Child's Full Name, Reading**
- **Marble Composition Notebook #2** — **Child's Full Name, Writing**
- **Red Poly Folder and Notebook** — **Child's Full Name, Math**

Extra folders, notebooks, and supplies will be stored in the locker for use later in the year.

Organize Pencil Cases

When students care for their materials, they should last for the whole year. We will only store a few things in our desk and keep the extra supplies in the lockers. Please organize the following:

Desk Pencil Case	Locker Pencil Case
• 3 sharpened pencils • Pencil sharpener • 1blue pen • 1 red pen • Scissors • 1 glue stick • Basic Calculator	• Extra pencils and pens • Art Supplies • Sharpie Ultra Fine Markers –*these will only be used for special projects* • Extra Supplies











Incoming 4th Grade Summer Reading List

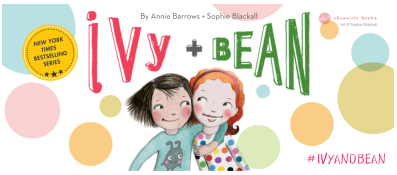
Directions: Students are expected to read one fiction and one nonfiction book. In addition to reading the books, students will complete a writing activity for each book. Of course, children are encouraged to read as many books as possible this summer!

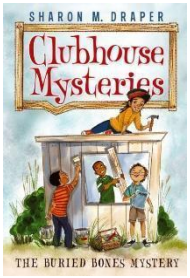
Completed activities are due on the first day of school.

Fiction

Ivy and Bean **(Series) by Annie Barrows**

When Bean plays a mean trick on her sister, she finds unexpected support for her antics from Ivy, the new neighbor, who is less boring than Bean first suspected. *These books are part of a series. Choose at least one book, read, and complete a fiction book report.*





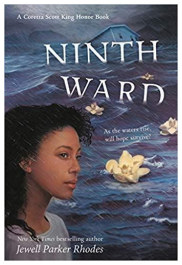
Clubhouse Mysteries Book 1: The Buried Bones Mystery **by Sharon M. Draper**

Best friends Ziggy, Rashawn, Jerome, and Rico decide to form a clubhouse, complete with secret codes, meetings, and special treasures. Join them as they solve mysteries, find their courage and help their community in this fun and heartwarming series! *These books are part of a series. Choose at least one book, read, and complete a fiction book report.*

The Time Warp Trio **(Series) by Jon Scieska**

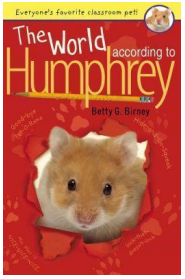
The zany time traveling trio of Fred, Joe, and Sam never fail to amuse and educate in their crazy adventures. *These books are part of a series. Choose at least one book, read, and complete a fiction book report.*





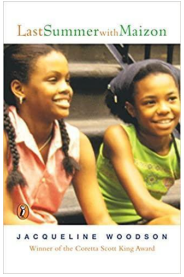
Ninth Ward **by Jewell Parker Rhodes**

Twelve-year-old Lanesha lives in a tight-knit community in New Orleans' Ninth Ward. She doesn't have a fancy house like her uptown family or lots of friends like the other kids on her street. But what she does have is Mama Ya-Ya, her fiercely loving caretaker, wise in the ways of the world and able to predict the future. So when Mama Ya-Ya's visions show a powerful hurricane--Katrina--fast approaching, it's up to Lanesha to call upon the hope and strength Mama Ya-Ya has given her to help them both survive the storm. *Read and complete a fiction book report.*



The World According to Humphrey **by Betty Birney**

You can learn a lot about life by observing another species. That's what Humphrey was told when he was first brought to Room 26. And boy, is it true! In addition to his classroom escapades, each weekend this amazing hamster gets to sleep over with a different student, like Lower-Your-Voice-A.J. and Speak-Up-Sayeh. Soon Humphrey learns to read, write, and even shoot rubber bands (only in self-defense, of course). Humphrey has friends, adventures, and a cage with a lock-that doesn't- lock. His life would be perfect, if only the teacher, Mrs. Brisbane, wasn't out to get him! (Sequels available)

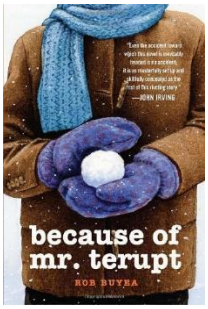


Last Summer with Maizon **by Jacqueline Woodson**

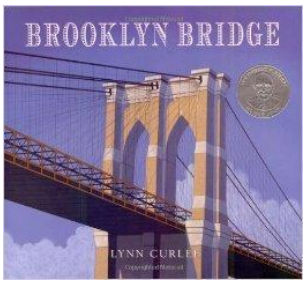
Margaret loves her parents and hanging out with her best friend, Maizon. Then it happens, like a one-two punch, during the summer she turns eleven: first, Margaret's father dies of a heart attack, and then Maizon is accepted at an expensive boarding school, far away from the city they call home. For the first time in her life, Margaret has to turn to someone who isn't Maizon, who doesn't know her heart and her dreams. . . .

Because of Mr. Terupt **by Rob Buyea**

It's the start of fifth grade for seven kids at Snow Hill School. There's . . . Jessica, the new girl, smart and perceptive, who's having a hard time fitting in; Alexia, a bully, your friend one second, your enemy the next; Peter, class prankster and troublemaker; Luke, the brain; Danielle, who never stands up for herself; shy Anna, whose home situation makes her an outcast; and Jeffrey, who hates school. Only Mr. Terupt, their new and energetic teacher, seems to know how to deal with them all. He makes the classroom a fun place, even if he doesn't let them get away with much . . . until the snowy winter day when an accident changes everything—and everyone.



Nonfiction



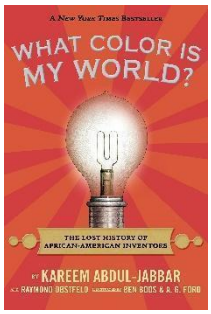
Brooklyn Bridge **by Lynn Curlee**

The Brooklyn Bridge receives handsome tribute here as a great accomplishment of engineering and human labor. Full-page paintings provide impressive views of the underwater excavation of foundations, the construction of the anchoring towers, and the suspension of cables.

While the text explains the technical aspects of construction, it also recounts the costly efforts of the Roebling family and the laborers.

What Color is My World? ***How African-American Inventors Changed the Way We Live*** **by Kareem Abdul Jabar**

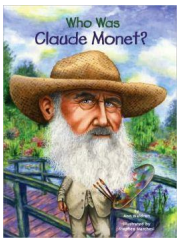
Did you know that James West invented the microphone in your cell phone? That Fred Jones invented the refrigerated truck that makes supermarkets possible? Or that Dr. Percy Julian synthesized cortisone from soy, easing untold people's pain? These are just some of the black inventors and innovators scoring big points in this dynamic look at several unsung heroes who shared a desire to improve people's lives. Offering profiles with fast facts on flaps and framed by a funny contemporary story featuring two feisty twins, here is a nod to the minds behind the gamma electric cell and the ice-cream scoop, improvements to traffic lights, open-heart surgery, and more — inventors whose ingenuity and perseverance against great odds made our world safer, better, and brighter.

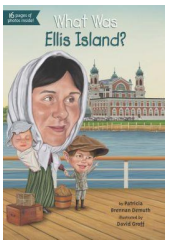


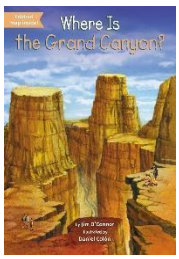
"Who Was", "What Was" "Where Is" (Series)

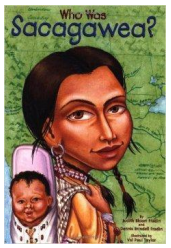
This is a great nonfiction series with lots of options to read about famous people, places, and events. Choose one book from the series to read in its entirety.

http://www.whowasbookseries.com/









Descriptions of books are edited from a variety of sources such as Horn Book Guide Online, Capitol Choices, previous summer reading lists, Amazon.com, and individual cataloging records.

Name: _____ Date: _____

Book 1: FICTION

Title: _____

Author: _____

BUILDING VOCABULARY

Complete this section *as you read* by selecting 5 words that are new to you. Write the words down. Use context clues to help you determine what the words mean.

Unknown Word	**Context Clues** *Words the author used to help me understand the word*	**My Definition** *What I think the word means based on the context clues*

PREDICTING - Be an Active Reader

As you read, try to figure out what will happen next and how the selection might end. Make your prediction and include what happened in the text that guided you to this prediction.

Page Number	**Prediction** *What do I think will happen next?*	**Text Clues** *What happened in the text that made me think this?*

Book 1: FICTION, cont.

THE STORY ELEMENTS

Important Characters: _____

_____

Setting (Where and when the story takes place)

_____

Problem - *Write in Complete Sentences*

_____

_____

_____

Plot – The Main Events *Write in Complete Sentences*

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

Resolution - *Write in Complete Sentences*

_____

_____

Name: _____ Date: _____

Book 2: NONFICTION

Title: _____

Author: _____

BEFORE READING

Explain why you selected this book. A one sentence answer is not enough to answer this question completely. Use your space wisely and be specific in explaining why you chose the book. *Always write in complete sentences (subject and a predicate), capitalize all proper nouns and the first word of a sentence, and use proper punctuation*.

Reason you selected the book

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

BUILDING VOCABULARY

Complete this section as you read by selecting 5 words that are new to you. Write the words down. Use context clues to help you determine what the words mean.

Unknown Word	**Context Clues** *Words the author used to help me understand the word*	**My Definition** *What I think the word means based on the context clues*

Book 2: NONFICTION, cont.

SKETCH WHAT YOU LEARNED

In each box, write and illustrate something you learned while reading this book.

1.	2.
3,	4.