

Dear Parents,

This week begins a brand new school year for all of us, and I'd like to extend a warm welcome to my new students. As always, the start of a school year holds the promise of new discovery and learning, as well as the prospect of personal growth in all areas.

In an effort to conserve paper, the classroom handbook is posted on the RRES Website @ <https://www.cassiaschools.org/o/rre>, under the parent tab. This website will also be useful throughout the school year, as it is kept up to date on what is happening at our school! Please take a moment to read through the class handbook and help familiarize yourself and your students with our expectations for this school year.

**Please be aware of updated school policies that are highlighted throughout the classroom handbook!** Please sign below and return by Monday, August 28, 2023. There is also a sign up for parties/volunteers etc on the back. If you are able to help, please let me know!

I'm looking forward to an exciting year with my class. Thank you for your cooperation in getting this year off to a great start! My door is always open to you; feel free to drop by anytime to see what we are learning!

Sincerely,  
Mrs. Smith

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_

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

Parent Email \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Cell Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_



## **Classroom Parties/ Field Trip Chaperones**

Please fill out the form below and return if you are available to help throughout the year.

- ◆ Please note, chaperoning a field trip may require you to drive your personal vehicle. Your student will be required to ride the bus to the activity, however you may take your student home with you if you so desire. This also applies to Ski Days.

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<u>Holiday/ Field Trip</u>	<u>I can help/chaperone.</u>	<u>I can't help, but can donate supplies</u>
<u>Halloween</u>		
<u>Christmas</u>		
<u>Valentine's Day</u>		
<u>St. Patrick's Day (snacks only)</u>	<u>SNACKS ONLY</u>	
<u>Boise Field Trip</u>		

# Mrs. Smith's 4th Grade Class



## Teacher Contact Information

If you need to contact me, I prefer email if possible. My email address is [smijill@cassiaschools.org](mailto:smijill@cassiaschools.org). I check my email each day and I will respond as soon as possible. If you do not have email, you may call the school and leave a message (208-645-2561) or text me personally at (208-670-3439).



## Communication

I will use the **REMIND** app as my primary way of communication. You can download the app on IOS and Android for free. To join the class text [@c883h2g](https://www.remind.com/join/@c883h2g) to 81010. If you are unable to join the class, please let me know.

## School Supplies and Materials Needed

Please note that consumables, such as pencils, paper, dry erase markers etc. get used up and will likely need to be replaced throughout the school year. I will send a note with your student as this occurs. Thank you for understanding!

**Classroom Donations of these items are not required but greatly appreciated:**

- ◆ Clorox wipes
- ◆ Hand Sanitizer
- ◆ Paper Towels
- ◆ Dry Erase Markers
- ◆ Suckers
- ◆ Hard Candies
- ◆ Snacks such as goldfish, fruit snacks, cheez its, pretzels, etc

## Attendance and Illnesses

Regular school attendance is critical to the learning process. Our school day officially starts at 8:20 a.m. When your child is absent or tardy, he or she misses valuable instructional time. However, if your child is sick, please keep them home. Students will have **3 days** to complete any missing assignments. (Special circumstances such as long-term absences will be dealt with on an individual basis.) Work not completed and turned in as required will result in a **0**.

\*Please be sure to check your student in or out of the office if they are late or leaving early.\*

## Homework/Classwork



I know as a parent, evenings can be chaotic, and should be spent as a family, however, the four day school week makes fitting everything in

difficult. Because of this, students will be required to complete a reading passage with comprehension questions each evening. These are meant to be quick 5-10 minute assignments to do with your student. If these assignments are taking longer than that, please let me know!

I give ample time in class for the completion of classroom assignments, but occasionally an assignment must be completed at home. Typically, if your student has a lot of homework it means either they need extra practice to master the standard or they were off task during independent practice time and did not complete the assignment.

**I expect all classwork to be turned in on time. Late assignments will result in the loss of recess or PE.**

\*\*\* For the first missed assignment, the student will be given a warning and be required to complete the assignment on his or her own time, 2nd missed assignment will result in loss of PE or recess, and 3rd missed assignment will result in a parent notification.

I understand that things happen so communication is key. If something happens that prevents your child from completing his or her assignments, please contact me **PRIOR** to the due date of the assignment and I will be happy to work with the student.

## **Standards Based Report Cards**

Fourth Grade is a Standards based report card system. Students will be graded on whether they have met the standard, are working towards meeting the standard or failing to meet the standard. Please contact me if you would like more information on this.

## **Math Program**

As a district, we use the McGraw Hill program. It requires students to think critically about numbers and real world components of math.

## **Daily Math Drills**

A key part of being successful in math is having the basic math facts memorized. This skill is a must if your child wants to be successful in fourth grade and beyond. We will practice these skills daily in class. If your child is struggling, I will send home practice sheets to complete at home. It is imperative that your student work on these sheets daily.

## **English Language Arts**

We use the Reach for Reading program, with a focus on small group reading and comprehension. Parent helpers are encouraged to volunteer for a reading group if possible. Reading groups are at 11:30 each day.

## **Spelling Program**

We will focus on roots, prefixes and suffixes, as well as grade level frequently confused words throughout the year. Please help your student practice these throughout the week so he/she may be successful!

## **Classroom Rules/Expectations**

Students will be expected to follow the rules in our school, as well as our individual classroom rules. These include lunchroom, playground and bus rules. Please refer to the school handbook for a list of these expectations. Repeated failure to follow these rules may result in loss of recess and/or specials, visiting with Mrs. Ficek, or a call home.

## **SCHOOL POLICIES**

- School times are: 8:20 a.m-3:40 p.m. for RRES. Students will only be allowed into the school to eat breakfast, but then must go out for morning recess until 8:15 a.m. This means **all** students, whether they are walking, being dropped off or are bus riders. In case of inclement weather, students will be allowed into the gym for morning recess. If there are extenuating circumstances, please visit with myself or Mrs. Ficek so that we may address these individually. There is limited supervision before this time, and the safety and well-being of ALL students is our top priority.
- All students will be expected to go outside for recess, weather permitting. Please make sure your student has a coat and is dressed appropriately for the weather.
- Breakfast and lunch will no longer be free, unless the student is on a free/reduced food program. Payments may be made online at [myschoolbucks.com](http://myschoolbucks.com) or see Janica to fill out a free/reduced food form.
- Per Cassia County School District policy, all treats/snacks (birthdays and class parties included) must be store bought. Unfortunately, we are no longer allowed to have homemade treats. This also applies to swap meet items.
- Please only send clear liquids (sprite, capri suns, etc) for class parties.
- Hats will be allowed the first Thursday of each month. Hats should not be worn at any other times while in the school building.

## **Water Bottles**

Plain water is the only beverage permitted, and the bottle must have a secure lid. We have a water filter fountain students may use throughout the day to refill their bottles.

## **Parent Volunteers**

I love to have parent volunteers in the room! You can help with centers, grading papers, making copies, putting together the bulletin board or anything else that needs to be done. It would be great if you could come in regularly on a certain day of the week or at a certain time. Doing so will

help me plan activities that need a helping hand! So, if you would like to volunteer, please let me know asap!

### **Class Parties/Birthdays**

Please feel free to send treats if you so desire for your student's birthday. However, please do not send anything other than **clear liquids**. This also applies to class parties. Spills happen, and colored drinks stain the carpets. I appreciate your support and assistance in preventing more work for our awesome janitors.

### **Snacks**

Snacks are **NOT** permitted in the classroom, unless it is a medical necessity, or given out by me. The exception to this is birthday/class parties. If you would like to donate snacks for the whole class, please feel free to do so.

#### **Daily Schedule**

8:20-9:00 Morning work  
9-10:00 Specials  
10-10:15 Grammar  
10:15-10:30 Recess  
10:30-11:00 Writing  
11:00-11:30 Whole Group Reading  
11:30-12:00 Focused group reading  
12:00-12:20 Spelling, Vocab  
12:25-1:00 Lunch  
1:00-2:30 Math  
2:30-2:45 Recess  
2:45-3:30 Science/Social Studies  
3:30-3:40 Clean Up/Dismissal

\*Schedule Subject to Change as Needed

