

Welcome to 4th Grade



PARENT HANDBOOK

2025 - 2026

Welcome to

We are very excited to begin another wonderful school year. Within this handbook you will find a great deal of information about our classroom procedures and policies. Please review these carefully and feel free to contact us with any questions or concerns you may have regarding the enclosed information.

In addition to this handbook, you can find out even more about us and our classrooms on our grade-level website. You can reach this information from the Mann Elementary Homepage under the Quicklinks in the upper right hand corner. Click "Team Websites" and click on the 4th grade team website. This website will provide you with useful information.

Fourth grade will be filled with many positive learning experiences. Some learning opportunities include classroom participation in Hands-on Activities, and Individual/Small Group Projects. Our school-wide theme for this year is **"20 Years of SPARKing Minds and Shaping Futures"**.

Throughout the year, students will display their individual talents through a variety of activities.

We look forward to meeting the students and getting to know their families. It is our belief that a strong, positive relationship between home and school is the key to every child's success! We are going to have a FANTASTIC school year at Mann Elementary!

Sincerely,

4th Grade Teachers



Classroom Information

Assignments

Our curriculum will build and reinforce from one day to the next. Therefore, it is very important that ALL assignments be completed on time. Some assignments will be graded by a check system based on completion and effort on the assignment and others will be taken and graded based on points. In addition, some questions will be scored using scoring guides (ex. 4, 3, 2, 1). Students' assignment grades will be calculated and entered into the grade book based on four areas: tests/quizzes, classwork, homework, and activities/projects. The following is the Boone County Schools grading system, which we will follow. All assignments (classwork, homework, participation, quizzes, etc.) will be graded equally, with the exception of tests and large projects. Below 70 is "I" for INCOMPLETE until June 30 of the academic year. Students with an "I" will be provided support by the school to remediate learning to reach a 70. If the grade is still listed as an "I" after June 30, then it becomes a failing grade.

Check System	Grading Scale	Point System
✓+ = A ✓ = B ✓- = C - = Incomplete/Below Level	A = 90 - 100 B = 80 - 89 C = 70 - 79 I = Incomplete/Below Level	4 = A 3 = B 2 = C 1 = Incomplete/Below Level

Homework Policy



All assignments **MUST** be completed in pencil and ready to check on the day due. Just like athletic practice is necessary for sports excellence, or music practice is important for musical mastery, homework is necessary practice for academic success. Your child will have an agenda book this year in order to help keep track of work assigned. Each day, students will fill out their agendas. We recommend parents check this every evening.

All homework assignments will be completed by the start of class time on the day due. Many times, these homework assignments will be the basis for class discussion; therefore, it is extremely important that your child completes his/her homework on time. Incomplete or missing assignments will be due by the following morning (deductions will be made for late work). Partially completed papers will receive a score based on what was finished. In order to develop good study skills, your child could see the following activities each week:

- Math Home Links or other activities will be assigned as an extension of their work in school.
- Weekly AR Reading.
- Occasional Science/Social Studies related activities.
- Students are responsible for preparing for tests/quizzes, memorizing multiplication/division facts, completing any unfinished classwork, and earning quarterly AR points. Students should use their class notebooks and classwork to review for weekly quizzes and unit tests.

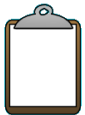


Attendance & Agenda Books

Students are released to classrooms at 8:30 and will begin student work at that time. It is important for all students to be at school every day, and also on time. Our school day begins promptly at 8:45 am. Agendas will be used daily in our classrooms. The agenda contains LOTS of IMPORTANT information about our school, including the dress code, grading scale, procedures, etc. This is a way for you to see what we have studied in school, as well as see what your child must complete at home. It's crucial that we communicate between school and home so that your child will be successful this year. It is your child's responsibility to fill out his/her agenda, daily.

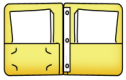
Your child's teacher will encourage the use of their agenda, daily. Please encourage your child to utilize this tool to help keep them organized and to keep you up to date with activities and assignments in the classroom. Although we do not believe in a lot of homework, homework gives children time to be independent and to practice skills necessary for success. However, if your child does not use his/her time wisely in class, all unfinished class work will become additional homework.

Make-up Work/Sick Notes



If your child is absent, please send in a **written note** explaining the absence. This note will be sent to the office upon returning to school. In addition, students are responsible for gathering and completing all work and notes that are missed. **All make-up assignments are due two days after returning to school unless specified by a teacher.**

Yellow Communication Folders



Yellow communication folders will come home every Thursday with your child's graded papers, school announcements, important reminders, etc. Please look through the papers received, fill out any necessary forms, and return the folder back to school. These should be returned to school the next day.

Take Home Folders



Students will be using a **TAKE HOME FOLDER** as well as their **AGENDA**. It is vital these two items come home every day and return to school the following day. The purpose of the Take Home Folder is to transport important daily documents, homework or notes to/from school on a daily basis.

Webpage/Newsletter



Our team has a grade-level webpage that can be accessed from the Mann Webpage. Basic contact information, student resource page, Infinite Campus information, etc., can all be found on the webpage. It is a wealth of information! A weekly newsletter will be emailed each Thursday, as well.

Birthdays



Birthdays are special events! We welcome you to send in a treat with your child to share with the class and help recognize your child's special day. If your child has a birthday that falls in the summer or during the holiday breaks, feel free to choose a date that works for you. Please let your child's teacher know ahead of time and keep the treats simple-- this will help with distribution of the treats to the students. **Also, please be aware that all food items must be listed on the approved Mann Snack List or the treats will be sent home.** In addition, please see Mann's policy regarding the passing out of birthday invitations to students at school.



Chromebooks Your child will be assigned a classroom chromebook. The devices are the property of Boone County Schools. The students are responsible for their use of their assigned chromebook. They will be using these chromebooks to access various programs including: Lexia, Dreambox, Google Classroom, Google Drive, and the internet for research purposes. These programs help the students become independent learners by providing reminders of upcoming assignments, help with homework, and the ability to communicate with their peers in a safe environment. These sites will be used for educational purposes only.



4th Grade Behavior Expectations

SPARK Expectations

Our School-Wide SPARK Expectations:

S - Self Awareness (owning your own behavior)

P - Positive

A - Attitude of Gratitude

R - Respect

K - Kindness

Classroom Management Plan

In 4th grade, we will use a classroom management system that includes rewards as well as consequences. Students who actively engage in our lesson and exemplify behaviors above and beyond our expectations will be rewarded with a GLOW Note. Consequently, those who do not exemplify positive behaviors will receive consequences for their actions by completing GROW Notes or a Stop and Think Sheet. If inappropriate behavior continues, students will receive an office referral. All behavior sheets will be sent home via the agenda and will require a parent/guardian signature. Please return the signed sheet with your student the following day.

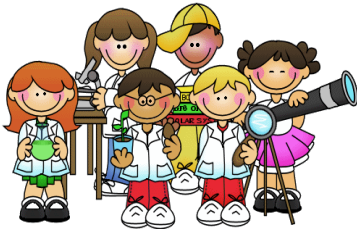
Curriculum Information

Social Studies



The focus of 4th grade builds on students' knowledge of local, national and world social studies to discover how and why people move from one place to another. Through the lens of European Exploration to the Thirteen Colonies, students engage in the study of geographic, political, economic and cultural reasons people move, as well as what they experience during the transition. Your child's grade will be composed of the following:

- **Social Studies Assignments:** Throughout the week, your child will complete tasks based on a unit of study. Some of these tasks will be completed in class, others in centers, and others may require to be finished at home.
- **Scholastic News:** Each week, your child will be assigned a weekly reader in which he/she reads different articles about real-world topics. Students will be given time to read in class. Then students are to answer the questions about the articles read. This will count as a classwork grade in Social Studies class.
- **News Quiz:** Students will watch a weekly news program called News Quiz that will focus on kid-friendly news reporting of things happening in our world. We will use this as an extension to our regular lessons on Fridays to discuss current events. Scores will be recorded as a quiz grade.
- **Assessments:** Upon the completion of a unit of study, there will be some form of assessment. This will be over key concepts and vocabulary that has been taught. Scores will be recorded as a test grade.



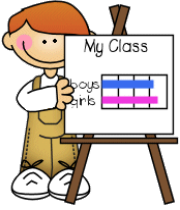
Science

Students will learn science throughout the year using the scientific method and incorporating lessons from Project Lead the Way. Students will conduct experiments

throughout the week to understand science concepts being taught. Be sure to ask your child what type of experiment he/she has been working on each week. You'll be surprised at what they can understand, once they've actually observed it! At the conclusion of the unit, students will be assessed on the information studied. A study guide will be sent home prior to the test date. Your child's grade will be composed of the following:

- **Homework**: On occasion, students will be given homework assignments. These tasks will be given a score based on completion. Partial credit will be awarded for incomplete work/missing work.
- **Classwork**: Students will receive grades for a variety of classwork activities (lab work, in-class assignments, etc) completed in class. This will be entered as a classwork grade. Students will also be responsible for maintaining a launch log.
- **Projects & Activities**: Throughout each unit, your child may be asked to complete a variety of tasks... illustrate a science concept, create brochures, design diagrams, etc... Most of these tasks will begin in class; however, students may need to "finish up" their work at home when needed. All assignments will be recorded as a project/activity grade. Students will also be participating in STEAM rotations with Ms. Oney, throughout the school year.
- **Weekly Assessments**: Most weeks, your child will complete a 10 question assessment on information we have learned throughout the week. This will be recorded as a test/quiz grade.
- **Unit Assessments**: When a unit of study is completed, students will be given a unit assessment on the material discussed in the unit. Study guides will be provided in order to review at home. Unit assessments will be completed in class. A variety of assessments will be used. These can include multiple choice, true/false, short answer, extended response, matching etc. Some of these assessments may be digital. These will count as a test grade.

Math



Our school has adopted the Everyday Math Program. EDM is an excellent math program. However, it does focus on new strategies and algorithms you might not be familiar with. You'll receive more information about this program as the year continues, but we wanted to mention a few things that might help you get more familiar with the program itself.

- **Nightly Homework:** Students will be given daily math tasks called **Home Links**. These links reinforce what the students have studied in their classroom. Home Links are used to help students practice different strategies. Therefore, feel free to help your child and check your child's homework every night. It's a growing step in the program. Know that we will go over the homework task the next day and give students time to ask questions and discuss the problems. Students will receive a homework grade each unit. Their score will be given based on completion. Partial credit will be awarded for incomplete work/missing work.
- **Technology:** Your child may be assigned weekly Dreambox lessons as part of their classroom routines. Your math teacher may also choose to use other technology programs in the classroom.
- **Unit/Weekly Assessments:** When a unit of study is completed, students will be given a unit assessment on the material discussed in the unit. Study guides will be provided in order to review at home. Unit assessments will be completed in class. These will count as a test grade. Weekly Assessments are also used to check in with student understanding throughout the unit - these are counted as a flashback quiz.
- **Projects & Activities:** Throughout the year, your child may be asked to complete a variety of tasks. Most of these tasks will begin in class; however, students may need to "finish up" their work at home if needed. All assignments will be recorded as a project/activity grade.

Advanced & Accelerated Math have additional expectations. That information will be sent home on the first day of class.

Language Arts



This year our 4th grade classes will be implementing a balanced literacy program following the core standards. The curriculum framework structure helps students develop the daily habits of reading, writing, and working independently which will lead to a lifetime of literacy independence. Through a variety of activities, your child's grade will be composed of the following:

- **Classroom Activities:** Students complete a variety of activities each week and set personal goals in reading/writing. Each activity will reinforce skills focused on the ELA standards. This may also include digital assignments. Students will maintain reading and writing journals as they navigate through learning this year to become strong and independent readers and writers.
- **Nightly AR Reading Homework:** Research shows that students become better readers with practice. We recommend students read a minimum of 20 minutes **EACH** night during the week. They may be asked to meet weekly with their teacher to discuss the books they are reading to set goals for each week. In addition, students may complete quarterly AR book projects. Since skills and interests may vary, they are encouraged to read a variety of materials and genres. These can include fiction, non-fiction, chapter and picture books.
- **Projects/Activities:** Periodically, students will complete a longer activity/project to depict their comprehension of a book of their choice. This activity will be graded and recorded as a project/activity grade.
- **Accelerated Reader Tests:** Each nine weeks, your child is responsible for reading Accelerated Reader books. For the first 3 grading periods, each child must obtain a minimum of 10 Accelerated Reader points during the nine weeks. During the last nine weeks, students must earn 15 AR points. Students may obtain these points by reading a series of several books to obtain the required points; however, all points **MUST** be obtained on their own reading level (this will be decided based on their STAR reading scores). If a child is reading above reading level, they may read any book at a fourth grade level or higher. Two grades will be given each nine weeks as a **test grade:** A percentage based on the total amount of books read ($10/10 = 100\%$, $9/10=90\%$, $8/10=80\%$, etc...) and a comprehension test grade (comprehension average of all the books read for that nine weeks). Students will be recognized for their AR points, and can earn rewards at particular intervals.



Daily Schedule



8:30am: Arrival

8:45am: Language Arts/Reading

9:50am: Unified Arts (see below)

	A	B	C	D	E	F
Crider	<i>Art</i>	<i>World Language</i>	<i>Music</i>	<i>Library</i>	<i>Computer</i>	<i>PE</i>
Reusch	<i>PE</i>	<i>Art</i>	<i>World Language</i>	<i>Music</i>	<i>Library</i>	<i>Computer</i>
Tranter	<i>Computers</i>	<i>PE</i>	<i>Art</i>	<i>World Language</i>	<i>Music</i>	<i>Library</i>
Ruark	<i>Library</i>	<i>Computer</i>	<i>PE</i>	<i>Art</i>	<i>World Language</i>	<i>Music</i>
Johnson	<i>Music</i>	<i>Library</i>	<i>Computers</i>	<i>PE</i>	<i>Art</i>	<i>World Language</i>

10:40am: Math

11:40am: Language Arts/Writing

12:20pm: Lunch

12:50pm: Science or Social Studies/ Block 1

1:45pm: Science or Social Studies/ Block 2

2:40pm: PE II

3:00pm: Response to Intervention Rotations (RTI) & Core Extension

3:30pm: Announcements/Dismissal

4th Grade 2025-26 Supply List

- 4 composition notebooks
- 1 6- pocket folder (not expandable)
- 4 dry erase markers
- 1 pk. colored pencils
- 1 pk. markers
- 1 pk. Crayons
- 2 dozen **sharpened** pencils
- 2 glue sticks (jumbo size)
- 1 pair of scissors (sharp point)
- 1 large pencil bag (large enough to fit all supplies)
- 1 packet pencil top erasers
- 1 pair of headphones