

St. Ambrose Elementary School
Grades 4 & 5 “The Bridge” Policies
2021 - 2022



Dear Parents and Guardians,

Welcome to the fabulous world of grades 4 & 5: “The Bridge”! We are excited to be your children’s teachers during these very important transitional years. The goal of our intermediate team is to prepare the children spiritually, socially and academically for their journey into the world of High School Prep and beyond. To this end we are providing you with our classroom policies. We will inform you of additions, deletions or changes as the need arises.

Class Switching

The students do switch classes among all four teachers. One main benefit is that the students and teachers have two years to get to know one another and develop a strong rapport.

Mrs. Nerlich: Grade 4 Homeroom (105)

- Grade 4 Language Arts, Grade 4 Social Studies, Grade 5 Social Studies

Mrs. Parente: Grade 4 Homeroom (106)

- Grade 4 Reading, Grade 4 Science, Grade 5 Science

Mrs. Buttitta: Grade 5 Homeroom (205)

- Grade 4 Math, Grade 5 Math, Grade 5 Religion

Mrs. Stern: Grade 5 Homeroom (206)

- Grade 4 Religion, Grade 5 English Language Arts (ELA: Reading, Vocabulary, Grammar and Writing)

Spirituality

Along with our formal religion program, the children will participate in a retreat, liturgies, prayer services, and other religious devotions. It is expected that your children will participate reverently. Our hope is that they will develop a greater appreciation for our faith through these activities.

Behavior

The students will continue to focus on the themes of respect, responsibility and reliability. At our discretion, we will continue to implement written reflections as a learning tool for students, and all reflections will be sent home for a parent signature. We will also utilize policy notices for behavior infractions and dress-code violations. Once a child receives **three** policy notices, he or she will have to attend detention with the teacher who issued it. Detentions will be held after school, likely each Wednesday from 3:00 - 3:30. Teachers may also decide to issue a detention right away if a behavior warrants it. Per the team, a reward system may also be in place for positive behavior. We hope that these policies will help the students be cognizant of making Christian choices.

Snack/Treat Policy

This year, students in grades 4 and 5 **WILL** be able to eat snacks that do not require utensils, but they may **NOT** eat any foods containing nuts. Here is a list of acceptable healthy snacks: fresh fruit, fresh veggies, raisins, cheese sticks, Gogurt, Nutri Grain bars (**but no granola bars**), animal crackers, or graham crackers. Also, on the Bridge team we respectfully ask that you do not send in birthday treats of any kind for birthdays. Thank you for your cooperation.

Cell Phones/Electronic Devices

Students may not carry cell phones during the school day. If a student must have a cell phone, it needs to be turned off and kept in the child's locker. If you need to reach your child, please leave a message with the office. Should a student be caught with a phone or should a phone ring in class, the device will be sent down to the office. In addition, students should not bring any electronic devices to school or they will be sent down to the office as well.

Homework

On average, our homework assignments should be completed within 45 minutes to an hour. There may be occasions when your child has somewhat more or less homework depending on the day's activities. Homework should be a positive reinforcement of the day's instruction, not a cause for distress. However, because homework is an integral part of the learning process, it must be completed carefully, neatly, and on time. To meet standards for written work, the students will:

1. Follow the directions for the given assignment.
2. All homework should be done in pencil unless specified by the teacher.
3. Write his/her name and number at the top of each assignment. One point will be deducted for no name.
4. Homework assignments will only be written in the **students' planners and on the Digital Planner located on the Bridge website** <https://sites.google.com/staschool.us/thebridgeteam/home>

Late homework will be accepted with the following penalties:

- 1 Day Late – 10% deducted
- A point will be deducted for each additional day.
- After two weeks assignments will not be accepted.

Classwork

Your child will bring home a folder each Tuesday containing graded papers from the previous week. Please review them carefully. If a paper is stamped for your signature due to a low score, please help your child correct the errors, sign, and return to school within two days. It is important that the students correct the errors, or the instructional value gained from the mistakes is minimal.

Accelerated Reader

In order to tailor our AR program to match individual reading levels, each student will now have a point goal. This goal is determined based on the child's performance on the latest MAP Reading assessment. Please see the school website for additional information about the AR program.

Communication

We will keep you informed of classroom happenings via the weekly folders, e-mail, , and a reminder regarding the updated weekly email newsletter (to be sent out on Sunday evenings). Homework will be posted daily, and grades will generally be updated each Tuesday. Please refer to your handbook for school-wide information regarding the grading scale, absence policy, dress code and other important policies and procedures. If you have any questions, please call or email.

Tutoring

Will be offered on an as needed basis. The student must have below a C. This allows us to better support the individual needs of students. When needed, it will be offered one day a week, per subject until 3:30. If your child is not picked up by 3:30, he or she will be sent to Guardian Angels.

We may be contacted at the following email addresses:

- Mrs. Nerlich: hnerlich@staschool.us
- Mrs. Parente: wparente@staschool.us
- Mrs. Buttitta: rbuttitta@staschool.us
- Mrs. Stern: mstern@staschool.us

We are looking forward to a wonderful year!

God's Blessings,

Mrs. Nerlich, Mrs. Parente, Mrs. Buttitta and Mrs. Stern