

# WORLD

about  
4th Grade

*Dear Parents,*

*We are excited to be working hand-in-hand with you and your child as he/she delves into the fourth grade curriculum this year. Our team strongly believes in the importance of working together with parents to create a meaningful learning experience for all students. We hope you will contact us anytime you have any questions or concerns. In this handout you will find information to get the year off to a great start!*

*4th Grade Team*

## Attendance

Students are expected to be on time each day. Instruction begins promptly at 7:45. Students arriving after 7:45 are marked tardy and those arriving after 8:45 are counted absent. It is required to provide a written note or email to Diane Briscoe if your child has been absent including the date, teacher's name, student's full name, as well as the reason for the absence. Help support our school wide WIG of improving attendance.

## Clothing

As weather permits, we will have outside recess each day. Please wear

appropriate shoes on PE days. Comfortable clothing is essential and girls should wear shorts under dresses and skirts. Just a reminder, per school dress code, tops with spaghetti strap and flip-flops are not allowed.

## Classroom Management

There will be a behavior calendar in your child's School/Home Binder. Please sign and return each day.

A Consequence Choice Chart will be implemented as a behavior management tool, and will be included in their School/Home Binder.

4th graders will have an opportunity to attend study hall during recess, if they need to complete unfinished work. Parents will be notified if this becomes excessive, and work will need to be completed at home for homework.

DSE will continue with "The Leader In Me" campus leadership model this year. Students will continue to receive Cool Cat Cash for positive behavior. Each classroom teacher will determine her classroom management procedures. A school-wide PBS behavior tracking system, Tiger Tracks, will communicate behavior weekly. Rewards will be given based on good behavior, and students will have an opportunity to spend their Cool Cat Cash at the Cool Cat Cash Store every nine weeks.

## Snacks

Students are encouraged to bring a healthy snack. Please avoid the "four C's"...candy, cakes, cookies, and chips. Although water is available, a personal water bottle can help your child stay well hydrated throughout the day.

## Volunteers

Parent Volunteers are wonderful; let your child's homeroom teacher know if you would like to volunteer in the classroom or workroom. Please review the PTA volunteer opportunities and sign up if interested.

## Homework Policy

Our team believes that homework not only teaches children responsibility and management skills, but also reinforces concepts taught in class. Homework is assigned by each 4th grade team to be completed Monday through Thursday; and should not exceed 45 minutes per day. Please notify your child's teacher if their nightly assignments take longer than this time on a regular basis.

Reading - Read for 20 minutes each night.

Grammar - Your child will have a spelling or language skills test every week based on 4th grade language TEKS.

Writing- Students will have a writing assignment every other week (Paragraph A Week that eventually becomes Page A Week, "PAW").

Math - Students will be required to practice their multiplication/division facts each day.

Students will bring home graded papers and announcements in their Thursday Folder. Please review the information and keep all graded work at home. In order to monitor grades or check for missing assignments; please access Skyward Family Access on a regular basis with your child.

## Contact Information

Each fourth grade teacher has a web page. You may find it at <http://www.dsisd.txed.net/> under "Schools"/ "Dripping Springs Elementary"/ "Teacher Webpages." We will post important information about our classes on this site, including regular class and 4th grade newsletters. This is a wonderful way to stay connected to what is happening in each subject matter as our year progresses.

## Grading

District Grading Policy: The 9-week grades for each subject shall be calculated based on a combination of summative and formative assessments. The teacher may require the student to complete additional practices, attend tutoring sessions, or complete another activity if a need exists.

### Formative vs. Summative

**Formative grades** are assignments not eligible for correction, however the skills are re-taught by the teacher when needed. These are worth 40% of your child's total grade.

**Summative grades** are assessments for skill mastery. Opportunities to retest on summative assignments will be offered and entered as a **separate** grade from the original score. These grades are worth 60% of your child's total grade.

