

**Welcome to Room 190!**

**4th Grade!**

**August 22, 2018**

**Dear Parents/Guardians,**

Welcome to Fourth Grade! I am very excited to begin a great year with you and your child. Open house is scheduled for **Thursday, September 6th from 6:30 p.m. to 7:45 p.m.** I look forward to discussing my classroom procedures/policies and informing you about some of the curricular areas your child will be studying this year.

During the first week of school, we will be building a community within the classroom and building. Together we will set classroom expectations, learn our daily routine and get to know our classmates. I feel it is important to set the expectations together, ensuring that each child feels accepted and is valued.

 I want to take this opportunity to share with you a couple of details about our classroom. Your child will be attending various special classes during the week. These specials include music, art, P.E., computers, and library.

Music=*Tuesday 9:00- 9:35 Wednesday 1:10-1:45*

P.E. =Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday & Friday 1:45 – 2:20

Art = Tuesday 10:45-11:20

Technology= Tuesday 11:00- 12:00

Library=TBD

Below you will find several areas of the classroom outlined:

# CLASSROOM RULES

There are very important rules that need to be followed in order to have a successful classroom. They are as follows:

1. **Be responsible.**

This includes coming to school and class prepared, completing homework, staying on task, etc.

1. **Be respectful.**

Treat others as you would like to be treated.

1. **Be safe.**

Make good choices. Avoid being involved with anything that could possibly hurt yourself or others.

1. **Be a team player**.

Working cooperatively & Helping one another

1. **Be a problem solver.**

 As a class, we will brainstorm ways that we can ensure that these principles are being met every day. Additionally, we will talk a lot about being a “problem solver”. Students will be encouraged to discuss issues with their classmates and attempt to resolve any dispute amicably.

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## **CLASSROOM CONSEQUENCES**

If any student breaks a classroom rule, the following steps will be taken for that individual:

* **Behavior Clip Chart:** "How far can I clip up today?" This chart is multicolored and on each color it states: The highest on the chart is Outstanding!, orange=GREAT JOB, yellow=GOOD DAY, blue=READY TO LEARN, red=THINK ABOUT IT, yellow=TEACHER CHOICE, green=PARENT CONTACT

Everyone starts on green=Ready to Learn. The students will move their clips up the chart for positive behavior and downward for negative behavior. If a student moves their clip down to Teacher Choice, they will have minutes taken away from activity time and will write in the Behavior Log. If the student moves their clip to Parent Contact, I will contact you directly by phone or in writing and a disciplinary form will be written. The student will also have minutes taken away from activity time and will write in the Behavior Log. *This will be done on a daily basis and every day each child will start with a clean slate.*

***If a student is "OUTSTANDING", they will earn an eagle ticket to use at the Eagle's Nest for fabulous incentives! They will also get a sticker on their sticker chart. For every 5 stickers received, they will get to pick from the class prize bag.***

 Our classroom also has a marble jar. Marbles can be earned for positive behaviors as a class. When the jar is full, we will celebrate as a class.

# STAR student of the week

Each child will have a chance to be our “star student of the week”. When your child’s turn comes, I will ask you to help your child complete a poster displaying facts about him/her. You can also send in extra pictures of your child to be displayed with the poster. **The following is a list of events your child will be taking part in for the week:**

**Monday: Present Star Student News**

**Tuesday: Bring in your favorite book to read to the class**

**Wednesday: Share your talent...bring in a special trophy or award you have earned**

**Thursday: The class will interview you**

**Friday: Sit by a friend during your favorite subject**

## **FOOD/DRINK/BIRTHDAYS**

Students may bring in a small, ***healthy*** snack for their morning break. Also, students may bring a water bottle to school for use in the classroom.

In order to avoid hurt feelings and exclusion, students will not be able to pass out invitations to birthday parties in school unless all boys, all girls, or all students in our class are invited. Thank you for your cooperation and understanding of this policy.

# MONDAY FOLDERS

Every Monday your child will bring home a folder containing all the graded papers from the week before. Please look them over and discuss good performance and areas that need improvement. Also, please check for papers that require a parent signature. **Any paper that receives a grade of D or F will require a parent signature.** Then sign the enclosed form and have your child return the folder with any signed assignments and the signed form on Tuesday. Please keep the papers from the week at home. If the folder is not returned on Tuesday.

## **READING CALENDARS**

At the beginning of each month, your child will be given a monthly reading calendar. The child is required to read for 20 minutes daily (Monday through Thursday). Please initial each day when your child reads. At the end of the month, students who have a completed calendar will get 2 tickets to use at the Eagle's Nest and a Homework Pass.

# SPELLING TESTS

At the beginning of each week (or biweekly depending on the story) your child will be given a spelling pretest. These words go along with the story or theme (20 words). In class, we will grade the pretest. Throughout the week we will review the words using various strategies. On Friday, or the last day of the week, students will take a spelling posttest. Two of the spelling words will be used in a sentence. Students will be given the two words and they will form their own sentences using proper sentence structure. Their sentences should be at least 7 – 9 words long and should use the word in proper context. On the posttest there will be one bonus word given. It will be a review word from previous stories. If the word is spelled correctly, they will receive 1 bonus point towards their total score.

**The grading scale is as follows:**

***A= \*90-100 B= 80-89 C= 70-79 D= 60-69 F= 59 and below***

## **Daily OraL Language (DOL) & Daily Oral Geography (DOG)**

The students will be given weekly DOL and DOG quizzes. The purpose of the daily DOL practice is to review and teach grammar skills. Students will also learn to use the appropriate correction symbols. The DOG will teach and reinforce geography and map skills. Students will learn to use the classroom atlas as a resource. *Students may use the atlas on the DOG quiz.* Check the website or refer to the weekly newsletter for quiz dates.

## **HOMEWORK/ASSIGNMENT NOTEBOOKS**

Homework is an important extension of the concepts presented in the classroom. Students are responsible for keeping up with all their work, as well as keeping it neat and organized. Please make sure that your child has the necessary supplies to help them stay prepared. You should expect homework every night, Monday through Thursday. We will try to limit homework to only practicing the important skills that we learn in class. All homework is due the next day unless otherwise specified. Students are responsible for recording homework and upcoming tests/quizzes in their assignment notebook each day. Students must have their assignment notebook initialed by a parent **EVERY NIGHT**. Assignment notebooks will be checked to make sure that parents/guardians have initialed for the previous day. Homework needs to be turned in on time and done neatly. I stress to the students that it is their responsibility to remember to do all of their homework and get a parent signature. If you see that your child is not bringing home his/her assignment book or bringing home the incorrect materials, please notify me. Students are required to label their work correctly and put their name on all assignments.

**Assignments missed due to illness will be given one day per day of absence plus one day. Requests for homework should be given to the school office before 11 AM and picked up at the school at the end of the school day.**

# ROGUS HOMEWORK INCENTIVE

Students will be rewarded for turning in their homework on time. At the beginning of each quarter, they will receive the letters ***ROGUS.*** These will be stapled to their assignment notebook. For every missing assignment, one letter will be removed. At the end of the quarter, students who have at least one letter left will take part in a fourth grade celebration.

## **SUPPLIES**

At registration you and your child received a list of supplies necessary to complete many activities throughout the year. Please clearly label all of your child’s supplies with a permanent marker (even pens and pencils). Students should have all of these supplies in the classroom at all times. When any supplies run out or are lost, these items need to be replaced. ***I also ask that each child brings in a shoe box size box to keep all of their supplies in. The desks have limited space.***

# Weekly News

A weekly update of what is happening in class will be posted on my teacher page located at [www.summithill.org](http://www.summithill.org). Click on the DJR link, followed by the teacher pages link, and then Mrs. Reno's link. This is updated weekly and contains all of our weekly events pertaining to the curriculum. It is very important to read at the beginning of each week. These are ways to maintain communication between school and home. I believe the most important element in educating a student is to ensure that a thoughtful and consistent level of communication is maintained between the teacher, the student, and the student’s parents/guardians. I encourage you to call me with any questions, concerns, or celebrations you may have for this year. You may also contact me by e-mail at jreno@summithill.org . I will always be happy to answer any questions. I look forward to a wonderful year with your child.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Joy Reno

jreno@summithill.org

815-464-2034

**OPENING LETTER/EMAIL**

Please sign below and return to school with your child **tomorrow**. Also, please list your email address below so that I can contact you via email. Thank You.

I \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, parent of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, have received, read, and understand all classroom procedures explained in the opening letter for the 2017-2018 school year. My email address is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. The best number to reach me at is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

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

 **Student Signature** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ 