



Nodaway-Holt

Fourth Grade Handbook

2016-2017

Welcome to Miss Frueh's

4th grade class!

*"Putting the educational puzzle together
one piece at a time"*

Miss Megan Frueh - eMints Certified Teacher

Nodaway-Holt R-VII Fourth Grade Teacher

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Welcome to 4th grade!

I can't begin to tell you how excited I am about this school year. I hope you have had a wonderful summer and are enthusiastic about returning to school.

In fourth grade everyone will have the opportunity to succeed and reach personal goals. You, your child and I are all a part of a team! We can be successful if we work together. There are sure to be many successes and some challenges this school year. I will do my best to communicate to you and your child. I would also ask that you communicate with me.

The purpose of this handbook is to help in answering any questions you have about the upcoming year. I think it will help you to become familiar with our classroom procedures before school even starts! **Please read carefully the policies concerning late work and the grading system.** If at any time while reading the handbook you have questions, please don't hesitate to call or email me. I would love to hear from you!

I am excited to be working with your student this school year! I am particularly enthusiastic about Project Lead the Way science curriculum which uses a 3 activities, 1 project and 1 real world problem to develop science skills. I am also eager to see each of the 4th graders succeed in the 40 book challenge this upcoming school year! I truly look forward to our year together. I am confident that it's going to be a great one!

Sincerely,

Miss Frueh

Curriculum

We are currently on in the middle of the transition to Missouri Learning Standards in the state of in the areas of Math and English Language Arts (ELA). Through this transition there are many concepts that have been moved to different grade levels. The Missouri Learning Standards and Missouri Grade Level Expectations are to help prepare students to be successful in life, prepare for the MAP test and other standardized tests. Fourth graders will be taking the MAP test in Communication Arts and Math in spring 2017. This assessment is taken on the computer.

Grading Policy

I follow the grading policies and dates as outlined in the student handbook.

Math: Tests = 40% Daily Work = 60%

Reading: Test = 40%, Small Group Work = 35%, Daily Class Work (vocabulary, whole group work) = 25%

Language: Writing and Grammar Assignments = 60%, Book Reports = 40%

Science: All tests, reports, projects, and daily work carry the same grading weight

Social Studies: All tests, reports, projects, and daily work carry the same grading weight

Spelling: Test = 40%, Daily Work = 60%

Mid-quarter progress reports will be mailed or sent home each quarter. To help parents stay up to date with their child's grades we have opened STI for 4th grade parents. Please use the username you were given at Open House to login to the website. While it is very convenient to view your child's grades online please be patient with me as I don't always log grades immediately after grading. I appreciate your cooperation and patience.

Homework Policy

Homework is an important way to review and reinforce skills covered in class, prepares students for upcoming lessons and gives extra practice for new and old concepts. Each student will be responsible for keeping track of assignments for the day. I expect students to:

- ★ Keep track of daily assignments
- ★ Complete and turn in **ALL** assignments on time
- ★ Always do their best work and complete it neatly
- ★ Work on their own and ask for help only after they have given their best effort

Homework slips are a great way to keep communication from school to home. If a child does not complete an assignment he/she will be given a homework slip to fill out and take home for a guardian's signature. Any late homework will result in missing recess and staying in the Homework room to complete the assignment. If your child does not return the signed homework slip the next day, a parent/guardian will be contacted.

As stated in the elementary handbook, if a student receives three or more Homework Slips in a week, they will serve a detention until 4:00pm on their next school day. Students may be required to serve additional detention to complete revised work.

As a parent of a 4th grader, I expect you to help your child to become responsible. Homework is a time for students to practice the skills we have learned in class but it is also a time for parents to assist and engage with students!

School Supplies

In order to make the classroom a cohesive learning environment any items that are **NOT** on the school supply list will be sent home. Items not on the supply list which continue to be brought to school will be kept until the last day of the school year.

Planners and Take Home Folders

To help keep communication open between home and school students will be required to fill out a planner. The planner will have the day's assignments written for each day, I ask that the planner be initialed or signed by a parent or guardian once the day's assignments are complete. I expect the planner to come to and from school each day. This is to help prepare your child to become a responsible young adult and successful in completing assignments.

Planners cost \$3 and are the student's responsibility. **If a planner is lost the student will need to pay an additional \$3 to receive another planner.**

Take home folders are provided by the school district for a fee of \$1.25. This is a great way for student to carry assignments, notes, graded papers and many other important documents. This is great way for you to see all the wonderful work that has been done at school. Some of weekly work will be kept in a portfolio to share with you at parent teacher conferences and will be taken home at the end of the year.

Technology in the Classroom

This school year the fourth grade students will be using Chrome Books as part of everyday learning. With the use of Chrome Books comes a great responsibility which I believe all students in my classroom can handle. If a student is not following the technology agreement there will be consequences which could result in the loss of technology use. **Student will not be allowed to use the Chrome Books in the classroom until there is signed Technology Usage agreement on file in the office.** Students will also be exploring the exciting world of computer science. There will be notes coming home the first few months of school explaining more about computer science and the values it has in the classroom.

Personal Devices

In 2016 students have cell phones, ipods, tablets and so much more. If your child decides to bring a personal device to school they will not be allowed to keep it in their possession during the school day (7:45 until they have left the school building). The device will be turned off and placed in a container on the teacher's desk. If the device has reading material on it the student may use it at the assigned time during the school day.

Absences

If your student is ill, please make arrangements to have homework collected. If you are coming to collect work for a sick child please call the office in the morning and I will have the work ready by early afternoon. If a student knows they are going to be gone, they should get their assignments before the absence and it should be completed when they return to school.

Classroom Rules

1. Respect the people, equipment, and furnishings of the classroom.
2. Adjust your voice level to suit the activity.
3. Follow directions the first time they are given.
4. Raise your hand and wait for permission to speak.

These rules are set in place to make the classroom a safe and effective learning environment for every student. All actions and choices result in a consequence. The district uses techniques based on a program titled "Time to Teach." More information is in the student handbook concerning safe spots, refocuses and serving academy.

Reading Counts

The Reading Counts program is where students read books and earn points. Students earn prizes and rewards as their point total increases. In order to earn a Reading Circle Certificate at the end of the school year, students must read must have read 12 fiction and 6 nonfiction books and pass quizzes on all 18 books.

40 Book Challenge

The entire elementary is participating in the 40 Book Challenge this is meant to encourage reading and help students develop a lifelong love for reading. I highly encourage students to quiz on the book to include it on their 40 Book Log. If a book is not a quiz book students may turn in a 10 sentence book summary to show they have fully read the book.

Book Reports

Reading is extremely important for a successful education. In the 4th grade room students will participate in silent reading time every morning from 7:45 to 8:15am. In fourth grade your child will be assigned a monthly book report. **Book reports are HOMEWORK and will be worked on at home and school.** Please encourage your child to read every night so they can complete their book for the report in a timely manner. **I will be sending home grading rubrics and directions at the beginning of every month for the book reports.** Below is a list of dates the book reports will be due (these dates are subject to change).

September 30, 2016

October 28, 2016

November 30, 2016

December 20, 2016

January 31, 2017

February 28, 2017

March 31, 2017

April 28, 2017

****Mock Book report Aug. 31st**

Mark Twain Nominees 2016-2017

<i>The Junction of Sunshine and Lucky</i> by Holly Schidler	<i>Rain Reign</i> by Ann M. Martin
<i>Red Berries, White Clouds, Blue Sky</i> by Sandra Dallas	<i>Pennyroyal Academy</i> by M.A. Larson
<i>The Missing Pieces of Me</i> by Jean VanLeeuwen	<i>All Four Stars</i> by Tara Dairman
<i>A Million Ways Home</i> by Dianna Dorisi-Winget	<i>Pack of Dorks</i> by Beth Vrabel
<i>Zane and the Hurricane</i> by Rodman Philbrick	<i>Space Case</i> by Stuart Gibbs
<i>Half a Chance</i> by Cynthia Lord	<i>Loot: How to Steal a Fortune</i> by Jude Watson

Pizza Hut/Book It

Students will be given a certificate for a free personal pan pizza each month (October-March) upon completion of a second passed Reading Counts quiz on a book on THEIR reading level. Students who earn a certificate for all six months of the program will be given award at the end of the year and have the privilege of a pizza party.

Book Orders

Order forms will be sent out periodically throughout the year. Please send cash or check made out to Scholastic in a sealed envelope with the order form. You may also order books online through www.scholastic.com/bookclubs , if you order online please use my teacher code which is **KX23B**.

Class Parties

We will have three classroom parties throughout the year. These are Fall, Christmas and Valentine's Day. Your help would be appreciated even if you are unable to attend. Parents should be prepared to provide store-bought treats and plan an activity for at least one party during the year. A sign-up sheet will be available at Open House and reminders will be issued in the monthly newsletters which the oldest child receives.

Students may choose to celebrate their birthday with the class by bringing in treats. Students with a summer birthday may schedule a time during the year to celebrate. Treats will be given towards the end of the day depending on schedules and specials. Any treat served must be pre-packaged or bought from a bakery. **For birthday parties outside of school, we ask that your child not pass out invitations at school unless all of the class is invited.**

Field Trips

Fourth grade is an exciting year where we are able to explore Missouri History. I hope to plan a field trip or two that will allow students to visit historical locations in Missouri. I will be send home a note or newsletter telling you more about field trips as they are planned.

Stay in the Know!

Mrs. Carroll prepares a monthly newsletter for our school. New this year the newsletter will not be sent home unless you signed up to receive the paper newsletter at Back to School Night. The link to the newsletter will be on the Nodaway-Holt homepage at <http://nodholt.k12.mo.us/> Please take time to read it as it contains important information about upcoming tests, projects, supplies needed, activities going on in the classroom and school. I have created a class website which I update weekly with assignments, calendar events and subject links. Please use the website to stay informed. I will also be using the program Remind, which you can sign up to receive text alerts about 4th grade events such as book report due dates, field trip reminders and book order reminders.

Website - <http://nodholt4th.weebly.com>

Visitors

Parents may visit our classroom and are encouraged to do so throughout the year. Please let the office know at least a day in advanced, and be sure to sign in when you arrive. We would love to have you come eat with us, but the cooks need an accurate count by 9:00 a.m. on the day you will be joining us for lunch, 4th grade eats lunch at noon.

2016-2017 Class Roster

Donavan Bammer

Parker Clement

Paige Hanson

Cameron Hendrix

Preston Jenkins

Dalton Maupin

Dillon Russell

Courtney Woods

Miss Frueh