



# WELCOME TO 4TH GRADE

## Hello, Students and Families!

Welcome to 4th grade! We are so excited to learn and grow together in the upcoming school year. Here is a sneak peek of what to expect:

As readers of fiction we'll dive deeper into learning about characters and their traits. You'll hear some of our favorite stories and meet some unforgettable characters. Do you love learning about the world around you? Well, good! Because we'll be doing plenty of nonfiction reading as well. You'll love the project 4th graders do where they work in groups to research their favorite animals. Then you'll get to work together with your group to write and publish a book all about your animal!

This year in writing we'll continue storytelling. We have heard what good storytellers you all were in 3rd grade and we can't wait to hear what you come up with in 4th grade. You'll also have a chance to change the world with our opinion writing unit!. This is a special writing unit because you are encouraged to find something you really believe in and convince others to feel the same way. In the past Elm Street students have contacted our Governor (she even wrote back!), created online petitions on change.org where they gathered hundreds of signatures and made real changes in our own community.

Just like in reading and writing, we'll be building on what math skills you learned in 3rd grade. We'll keep working on multiplication, place value and number patterns. (Keep practicing those multiplication facts over the summer!) We will also keep practicing fractions - but this year we'll start learning about decimals!

In Social Studies we have the opportunity to learn about Maine's first residents: The Wabanaki People. They lived here long before Colonizers came to our state. We'll also have a chance to study our own government.

This is a big year for you all to grow as scientists! We'll ask questions like "what is energy and how do we use it?" We'll explore different sources of energy and what makes energy renewable. We will have hands-on experiments that you will love!

If that seems like a lot of learning, don't worry! We will spend the beginning of the school year learning all about each other and building trust in our classrooms. We will teach you all of our 4th grade expectations so there will be no surprises for you. It is important that we build our community before we dive into our busy year as 4th graders. We can't wait to see you in August! But until then, get outside as much as you can and keep reading as many books as possible!

Love,  
**Mrs. Harlow & Miss. Hesperheide**



# 4th Grade Supply List:

## Individual Items Needed:

- 8 notebooks (2 red, 2 yellow, 2 blue, 2 green)
- 8 pocket folders ( 2 blue, 2 yellow, 2 red, 2 green)
- Plenty of Ticonderoga pencils
- Pencil top erasers
- Pencil box
- Expo markers
- plenty of sticky notes (3x3 in.)
- 8-pack colored pencils (optional but suggested)
- 8-pack fine-tip markers (optional but suggested)
- Earbuds (make sure they are comfortable, we use them often)



- Expo markers
- Whiteboard erasers
- Sticky Notes



If you are looking for other ways you can help our classroom community. These things we will use all year!