



Dear Fourth Grade Parents,

Welcome to fourth grade!

My name is Shannon Kennedy and I am overjoyed to be your child's fourth grade teacher this year. This will be my fifth year teaching at Meadowbrook and I am so excited for this year to get started. Fourth grade was the first grade I taught when joining Meadowbrook and I am so excited to get back to teaching it. It has been my favorite year to teach so far! Fourth grade is full of excitement. Some highlights include Heritage Day, mystery novels, and of course, the amazing Travel Agency!

Outside of school, I love to spend my time with family and friends, relaxing on the beach, painting, or curling up with a good book. Over the summer, be sure to encourage your child to read, (including for our book report!) write, and explore the world around them. We have such a rich history near us that can help social studies come to life.

Fourth grade is the beginning of the Upper School division at Meadowbrook. As members of the upper school, students are expected to take on more responsibility in our school and in our classroom. We expect students to be following S.O.A.R. expectations both in and out of the classroom to live up to Meadowbrook's standards. In fourth grade, students are expected to be independent with their reading and writing. They should be able to write a 5-7 sentence paragraph full of strong sentences independently. We will focus on grammar, comprehension, and vocabulary. Having previously taught 4th, 5th, and 6th grade at Meadowbrook, I know what their future classes will look like and it is my goal to prepare them for what is ahead.

If you need to contact me, my email is skennedy@themeadowbrookschoo.org. I am looking forward to working with you and your child in reaching his or her full potential. I hope you all get a chance to enjoy some of your favorite activities this summer. I can't wait to meet your child in the fall!

Sincerely,
Shannon Kennedy

FOURTH GRADE SUPPLY LIST

****The majority of supplies will be collected at the beginning of the year and distributed throughout the year as necessary****

~Folders labeled with name and student name:

Homework
Grammar/LA
Writing
Social Studies
Math
Independent Work
Spanish

~A pencil box or bag that a small amount of their supplies can stay in, in their desk

~3 boxes of tissues

~3 containers of disinfectant wipes

~Earbuds (NOT headphones or wireless, please)

~Spiral Bound Notebooks labeled with name and student name:

Grammar/LA
Writing

~A wired or wireless mouse for Chromebook

****The majority of supplies (such as pencils, pens, tape, white out, etc.) will be collected at the beginning of the year and distributed throughout the year as necessary****

~Composition book for World Language

~ 4 Glue stick

~ 4 dry erase markers

~ A dry eraser (old sock work amazing)

~3 black Sharpies/permanent markers

~A 24 pack of SHARPENED pencils

~3 large pink erasers

~4 black or blue ink pens

~A pack of 12 Markers

~A pack of 24 crayons Crayons

~A pack of 12 colored pencils

~A pair of Scissors

~2 rolls of Scotch tape

~White out (liquid or tape is fine)

~ 2 Highlighters

~ A clipboard with their name on it.

INCOMING FOURTH GRADE SUMMER WORK

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Over the summer, it is so important to continue reading and writing with your child! This helps them maintain all the hard work they have done over the summer.

It is my hope that you will encourage your child to read as many books as possible over the summer. By reading together, as well as discussing books read independently, reading can be a very pleasant experience for your whole family. Finding books your child enjoys reading is vital to their learning process and encourages them to find their love of reading. For the summer, I am asking that your child reads ***at least two books*** over the summer and answer questions in paragraph form about each of the books.

Besides encouraging them to find a love of reading, responding to the questions in paragraph form will help them practice for the many writing assignments in fourth grade's curriculum. Your child should also be writing as often as possible over the summer! Keeping a journal of summer vacation, creating short stories, and practicing poetry are all different ways you should encourage your child to write!

The reading book reports are due on the first day of school. We will all enjoy sharing our favorite books with each other during the first week of school. Have a wonderful summer and I look forward to seeing all of you soon!

Sincerely,
Shannon Kennedy

Students are welcome to pick any grade-appropriate book. However, if you need some suggestions for the two book reports, feel free to use any of the books from this list:

Slacker
The Hero Two Doors Down
City Spies
The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe
The Lemonade War
Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief
Turtle in Paradise
Book Scavenger
James and the Giant Peach
The City of Ember
Escape! The Story of the Great Houdini
Witchlings
Zeus: Water Rescue
Mihi Ever After
Shipwreck at the Bottom of the World

SUMMER BOOK REPORTS

Please answer these questions on a separate piece of paper in paragraph form. Use 5-8 sentences for each paragraph. You may write neatly or type up your answers about each of the two books.

Please make an attractive cover for each book that includes the title of the book, the author's name, and your name.

Paragraph One: What is the plot of your story? What happens throughout the book?

Paragraph Two: Pick one chapter in your book that made you feel a strong emotion. Tell me about what emotion it made you feel and why.

Paragraph Three: If you could be one character in the book, which one would you be? Make sure you support your statements with details from the book.

PLEASE DO NOT READ THE FOLLOWING BOOKS

We may choose to read these in class!

Letters from Rifka
Hatchet
The Wish Giver
From the Mixed-up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler
Chasing Vermeer
Fish in a Tree
Because of Mr. Terupt
Wolf Hollow
You Go First

Dear Families,

This summer I am asking your students to keep a math journal. Each student will be asked to complete at least 10 journal entries. This can be kept in a spiral notebook, or composition book and we will continue to journal in it over the course of the 2023-2024 school year.

It is important for students to recognize math in the world around them, and make connections between their everyday experiences and math. Attached are some ideas for entries, but these are not the only options students can write about. Each entry should be at least a half a page detailing the connections between the experience and math; or the entry can be a collection of data represented in a chart, table, or graph with some observations about the data. Students are encouraged to use illustrations/pictures to support their solutions/explanations.

Here are some ideas for math journal entries. These are ideas, you are welcome to complete them, or you can use them to spark ideas of your own!

- Ice Cream Math- You want to get a 2-scoop ice cream from an ice cream shop. How many different kinds of 2-scoop cones can be made with 10 flavors?
- More Ice Cream-What ice cream is the best deal, the cheapest price per scoop (take the price and divide by the number of scoops you are buying? What is the cost per scoop in the 2, 3, 4, etc scoops?
- Mini golf- If you go mini golfing, be sure to keep an accurate score card. Create a line plot with your score on each hole. What score did you get most often (mode)? What was your maximum score? What was your minimum score? What was your average number of shots per hole?
- A Day in the Life- Keep a time schedule of everything you do for 24 hours (not every little thing like I tied my shoe, but all of the major activities for the day) with a start and end time. Be sure a complete 24 hours are recorded. Then group each activity into a category (such as sleep, leisure, eating, chores, movement, etc). Find the total time (in hours and minutes) of each category. What activity did you spend the most time doing? Least? How much more time did you spend on the longest activity versus the shortest? Include other observations about the time you spend on activities.
- Sleeping- Record the time you go to bed and the time you wake up each day for a week, and calculate the number of hours and minutes you spent sleeping each night. Create a table and bar graph to represent this data.
- Sports- playing a sport this summer? Keep track of one of the statistics in your sport. Examples- for each game record the number of hits and at bats you had, and at the end of the summer, calculate your batting average by dividing the number of hits by the number of at bats. Basketball- record the number of points you score each game, and at the end of the season, find your average points per game by dividing the number of points by the number of games played.
- Road trip? Going on a trip this summer? Predict what color car you will see most often, then create a tally chart to record the color of each vehicle you pass. Are all the colors about the same? Which color was most often? Least often? What was the difference between the most often and least often? Did the most popular color surprise you?

- Beach-record the water temperature each day for the week. What was the average temperature? What was the range in temperatures (highest minus the lowest)? Was there a mode? If you record for longer than a week, put the temperatures on a line plot. Were any of the temperature outliers (not fitting in with the others)?
- Sudoku- print and cut out a sudoku for your journal and complete it!
- Extreme tic tac toe- teach someone at home how to play extreme tic tac toe and keep the game boards in your notebook. Have a family/friends tournament if there are enough people around to play!
- Geometry- Go on a continuous geometry scavenger hunt. Take photos of different geometry concepts, print them out, glue them into your math journal and write what they are showing. See a tree branch that connects to the trunk forming an acute angle? See symmetry out in nature? Do you see things that are parallel or perpendicular? Are there any 2-D or 3-D shapes you see? Include angles, rays, parallel lines, perpendicular lines, shapes, lines intersecting, etc. Be observant!

Feel free to come up with your own ideas. I can't wait to see all the fun ways you have interacted with math this summer! If you have any questions, please email me kharp@themeadowbrookschool.org. Feel free to send me a picture of an entry you are extra proud of and excited to share!

Thank you for your help and support in your child's education.
Have a great summer!

Kelsey Harp
Upper School Math Teacher
Math Support & Enrichment Teacher