

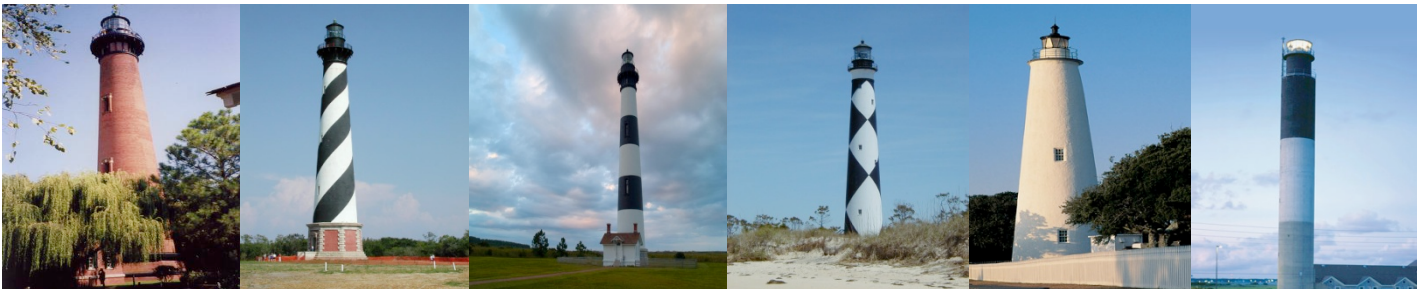
Welcome to Fourth Grade



Fourth Grade Handbook



The Lighthouse Team



2015 - 2016

August 24, 2015

Dear Parents,



Welcome to the Fourth Grade Lighthouse Team. Our team is made up of teachers, students, and parents. You have an important role in helping us have a highly successful year. This booklet is designed to give you answers to some of the everyday questions you may have about your child's day. We have discussed the contents of this booklet with your child today and now ask you to read our fourth grade procedures and rules. Please take the time to talk with your child briefly about each of the main points contained in this booklet. After you have read and discussed these with your student, please fill out the last page, tear it off, and send it back to school with your child.

Please keep this resource at home. Feel free to contact us by e-mail or school phone. We will get back with you as soon as possible.

Thanks so much for taking the time to go over this booklet with your child.

Looking forward to a great year.



Lighthouse Team 1

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Resource Teacher

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Absences

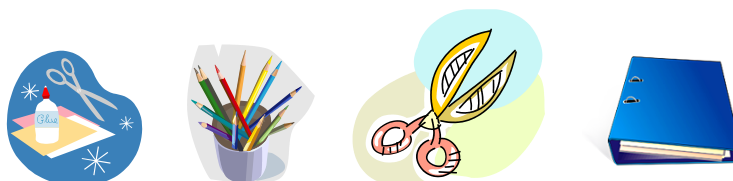
Regular school attendance is critical to the learning process. Our school day is from 8:00 – 3:00. It is important that your child arrive on time and stay until the end of the day. When your child is absent, he/she misses valuable instructional time. **Please send a written note of explanation whenever your child is absent.** Students will be expected to make up work when they are absent from any part of the day. Some activities may be difficult or impossible for students to make-up, such as class discussions, experiments, projects, presentations, or field trips.

Rules

- 1) Enter the classroom quietly.**
- 2) Keep your hands to yourself.**
- 3) Stay in your seat.**
- 4) Raise your hand to talk.**
- 5) Follow directions.**
- 6) Be respectful.**



School Supplies



4th Grade Materials List

The following is a list of supplies your child will need daily. Please check with your student monthly to be sure he/she is not in need of daily school supplies. We will send home reminders when your child needs to replenish their supplies.

Supplies:

- #2 Pencils – at least two everyday (They will need pencils all year long.)
- Eraser caps (one package)
- Crayons
- Glue Sticks (These will need to be replenished throughout the year.)
- Scissors – Pointed scissors
- Pencil bag with holes to be kept in 3-ring binder
- 3 ring binder (at least 2 inches, zipper ones are preferred for keeping papers and materials secure. By having a zippered one, students are less likely to lose materials and papers when moving from class to class.)
- Loose-leaf paper – wide rule is appropriate for this age level.
- 3 –Black speckled composition books (Literacy, Math, Social Studies or Science Logs)
- 1 of each color: Yellow, Orange, Green, or Pink highlighters
- 2 Ear buds for i-pad/computer use (small plugs). One should be kept at home and one to be kept at school. (\$1.00 at Dollar Tree)
- 1 – Box of sealable plastic bags – (Snack, quart, or gallon bags to be used by the class for paperback literature books and other resources.)
- 2 – boxes of tissues (These will need to be replenished throughout the year.)

Teacher Wish List:

- 2 – boxes of tissues (Tissues tend to be used and give out early in the year.)
- Expo Dry erase markers
- Paper (wide-ruled)
- Pencils
- Cap erasers

Resources used at home include:

- Dictionary
- Thesaurus
- Basic four-function calculator
- Pair of number cubes (dice) for math games to be used for homework.

Organizing Student Papers

Since we are all working with different classes, it is critical that we know who is responsible for the completed work. All students will be given a number. This will be the same number for all classes. Each paper will be headed with the student name, class number, homeroom teacher's name, and date. See example below.

I CALL THIS BIG, WHITE SPACE "THE CLOUD"

The diagram shows a rectangular page with a large white central area. At the top, four arrows point down to the top edge of this white area, with the text "I CALL THIS BIG, WHITE SPACE 'THE CLOUD'" above them. The page is ruled with horizontal blue lines. Two vertical pink lines are drawn, one on the left and one on the right, defining margins. In the top-left corner, there is a circle. To its right, the text "Student Name 12A (student # & teacher's initial) Date" is written. Below this, an arrow points to the text "ALWAYS SKIP THIS LINE BEFORE WRITING". In the middle-left section, an arrow points to the left margin with the text "The area to the left of the pink line is called the margin." In the middle-right section, an arrow points to the right margin with the text "There is also a pink line on the right of the page to show the right margin." Below this, an arrow points to the space between the pink lines with the text "Do Not write in these spaces." At the bottom-left corner, there is another circle.

Student Name 12A (student # & teacher's initial) Date

ALWAYS SKIP THIS LINE BEFORE WRITING

The area to the left of the pink line is called the margin.

There is also a pink line on the right of the page to show the right margin.

Do Not write in these spaces.

Failure to label work properly could result in having to repeat the assignment.



Homework

As a way to work on organizational skills, students will use their iPads to record homework and other important information. At the end of each block, it will be your child's responsibility to make sure all assignments are written in their iPads on the app called **myhomework**. Students who are not 24/7 iPad users will write their homework in a notebook. **Students are expected to show their assignments to a parent or guardian nightly.** Students who have completed all weekly homework will be rewarded with a panther paw from each class at the end of the week. These panther paws can be redeemed at the PBIS monthly celebrations.



We believe that homework is necessary for practicing skills that have been learned or for enriching classroom experiences. In many cases, homework is class work that has not been finished. We give homework because it is useful in reinforcing what has been learned in class and preparing students for upcoming lessons.

Students in fourth grade will have homework assignments each night, except for Fridays. Fifteen minutes of reading is a required homework assignment each evening. This reading may be an Accelerated Reader book or an assigned literature book. Homework assignments are due the next day after they are assigned, unless otherwise noted. We expect homework to be completed in a quality way and turned in on time.

Helping students get into the routine of doing homework is very important. Most kids need some time after school to relax, have a snack and recharge. Other students like to complete homework as soon as they walk in the door from school. Decide together what would be a good homework time and location. Make sure the location is quiet, comfortable and has adequate space. Getting into a set, daily homework routine is a great habit, which will help alleviate conflicts down the line.

Having completed homework is part of daily responsibilities. Continuous failure to come prepared for class will also result in disciplinary action.

Progress Reports

There will be a progress report sent every three weeks. Please review, sign and return the progress report. Feel free to schedule an appointment if you have questions or concerns. Progress reports will be sent out on a Tuesday. These reports are expected to be returned by the Friday after they are sent home. When they are not returned, the homeroom teacher will be in contact with you. This means of communication is important for your child's success.



Behavior Management System

In order to guarantee the excellent educational environment all children deserve, we have developed a discipline plan that will be in effect at all times. When in our classrooms and throughout the school, students must comply with the classroom rules and the PBIS rules. During the day if a student chooses to not follow a rule, the first consequence will be applied. The second time the student chooses not to follow a rule; the second consequence will be applied. The third offense leads to the third consequence and so on. Since the plan begins again each day, marks are not carried over to the next day.

We will use this system to help with daily classroom behavior as students travel from class to class. This includes all academic classes and their CONNECT classes. A monthly behavior calendar log will be placed in their daily communication lighthouse folder. This monthly behavior calendar log should ALWAYS remain in this blue communication folder. Each evening we want you to check this behavior calendar log for your child's behavior color of the day. After homework is checked and you have reviewed their behavior calendar, please sign in the box for that day. Please do NOT just put your initials on this date. We would appreciate your signature.

- ❖ Pink - Shipshape: Exceptionally Excellent - goes above and beyond and is a SUPER STUDENT!
- ❖ Purple - Knows the Ropes: Keep on traveling the way you are - GREAT JOB!
- ❖ Blue - Smooth Sailing: GOOD DAY!
- ❖ Yellow - Choppy Waters: Warning. You need to be careful and watch your behavior. - THINK ABOUT IT
- ❖ Orange - Run Aground: Stop. Behavior needs to change. Consequence: TEACHER'S CHOICE of a Consequence(s).
- ❖ Red - Shipwrecked: Behaviors have gone too far and requires parent contact. Consequence: Writing Assignment regarding behavior and referral to PBIS coordinator.
- ❖ WALK the PLANK: In the event your child's teacher has contacted you multiple times, then they will be referred to the Principal or Assistant Principal's Office. Possible Consequence: (to be determined by infraction and the discretion of the Principal): I.S.S. or Suspension.

The color level of these will be recorded daily on their behavior calendar logs. You will need to SIGN this behavior calendar log EACH day. This is a great way for us to communicate with one another. If these are signed each night, then they will receive a panther paw.

Lighthouse Team Handbook



I, _____, parent or legal guardian of

_____ have read, reviewed, and understand the

classroom policies for my child's fourth grade team.

Parent / Guardian Signature _____

Student Signature _____

Date _____

(Please complete this page and return it to school.)