

Mrs. Shaw
4th grade Room 7
801-264-7416 x5607

Greetings!

I am excited to be teaching fourth grade again at Grant Elementary. I have enjoyed learning the new common core curriculum and preparing interesting ways to teach for long term retention. Some of the methods I will be using involve music and mnemonics. The 4th Grade Team will be working together to make this year a huge success, it will require everyone's active help, both at home and at school.

Students will come to school prepared daily with reading homework done, this means the day planner is filled out by the student. Parents can see nightly what work is done or not done. I will also e-mail those that are on the school computer usually every week or two. I will try and make it informative and useful. If you are not getting the e-mails, please check with the office. Parents just need to keep track on the day planner each week to record the total hours and minutes read each week. I will also send home a paper attached to the monthly Book Report to have you write the total time read for the month. This paper will be used in a monthly drawing for a free book and other rewards. The day planner is so I know the student has read their 30 minutes that night. (10 hours min. per month) I will spot check these randomly. Together parent and child must look through the nightly folder and check for completion of daily work that might turn into homework.

“It takes a village to raise a child.” We all need to play an active part to ensure successful learning as they prepare for Fifth grade.

Win Walk:

Monday through Thursday from 9:45 - 10:15 they will have 30 min. of intense work. They rotate between three groups each day. We will group students by their abilities or needs. They may be in different groups each time as the subject matter is taught to Mastery.

Folders: I will give all students a bright yellow plastic folder. This yellow folder should be coming home nightly with important papers for you, plus corrected/homework papers for your child to do or redo. I allow students to redo low scores for a higher one during **that week only**. “It is easier to keep up than to catch up.”

Late Work:

I would love all work to be handed in on time on the day it was given. If they want to take their school work home periodically for parental help, I understand. If you know of a vacation or trip which takes a student away from school, please let me know and I can work with them on getting their work completed.

Discipline Plan:

The school discipline plan is as follows:

1. Verbal or Nonverbal warning.
2. Name on Board (cannot be in the Magnificent Seat)
3. A Reflection Sheet is now used for children that may be breaking a rule.

Dibels Testing

All students will be tested for fluency with the Dibel's test 3 times during the school year. The benchmark for 4th grade is: Fall Benchmark is 90 words per minute, Winter Benchmark is 108 words per minute, and Spring Benchmark is 119 words per minute. Your child's assessment

scores will be discussed at SEP Conferences. We are setting a goal to have all kids on grade level for the end of the year.

DAZE:

Three minute reading passages are done monthly as I used to do them weekly, oops. DAZE test: Your child has 3 minutes to read and show comprehension after reading a short essay. Scores will be kept to show level and improvement during the school year.

Math Interventions:

Math Intervention times are scheduled Monday through Thursday, from 11:00 -11:45a.m. Students will work on improving reading skills and math concepts. Guided Reading Groups and small math groups will meet during this time. Differentiated instruction will be given in small groups to address different learning skills.

We will be doing Engage New York Math, or also called Eureka Math. They will be given term assessments when the Module is done. Grades may not appear as frequently as before, but know that I always keep a hard copy and can show their progress so far. We are changing our grade process this year to accommodate technology and a Standard Based System.

If you ever have any questions, please feel free to contact me. Thank you.

Monthly Reading Genre:

During the school year we will learn and read about a specific genre of literature each month. Here is our genre schedule:

September / Biography / Autobiography
October / Mystery, Scary Stories
November / Adventure/ Mythology
December / Fairy Tales

January / Nonfiction
February / Historical Fiction
April / Poetry
May / Science Fiction

County Fair:

My class each year holds a County Fair usually in February. Each child will research a Utah county. They will need to memorize 9 facts. They may dress up as a person from their county. Students will make a poster at home with their parents. At school they will make a Power Point Presentation for the fair. Feel free to request a county now. We might hold this in the gym to allow for Social Distancing. More information to come.

Lucky Listeners:

Your child will receive only one copy of the Lucky Listener. During the week they must read it 4 times. They may not read it one time to 4 people!!! They are challenging, but I feel they will learn so much. If you have concerns please feel free to contact me. These are handed out on Fridays and due back the next Friday. On Friday there will be a small quiz on that famous person. If they have read it four times they should do well.

If they read it before Friday, they can turn it in early for Shaw Bucks. Also, take a picture of it, send it to "Aunt Rose" in another state, and have them listen to your child. You will have to sign the paper though. =)

Tardies and Absences:

The school policy is that students must be in their seats by 8:35. The first bell ring rings at 8:20 for Breakfast and for Line Up. Then at 8:30 allowing them the 5 minutes to get in and sit down working on Lexia, Computer, or Journal.

If your child must be excused during the day, then please let me know by note, e-mail, or phone call. If you want it excused, you will need to contact the secretary at the office. **Lunch count is done by 9:00 Please remember to get counted by the secretary if getting hot lunch.**

Cursive:

Students are to use pencils for all assignments. I will allow pens for formal writing assignments. Cursive is reviewed from September to December. After December cursive is requested for most assignments, except for spelling assignments and tests.

Rewards:

Individual Rewards: “Shaw Bucks” are given for extra work and jobs done well. They are my classroom rewards that are given out for doing their best work. They can earn or lose them. Every two weeks we will have an auction where they can use their “Shaw Bucks” to spend on unique items or random things, or to save for another day.

15 Star Parties: The whole class collectively can earn a party. This takes longer to achieve. We usually earn about 4 parties a year. The students should bring home a reminder note to inform you we are getting close to a party so you have some advance notice. All you do is buy about 30 jolly ranchers, cookies, candies, pretzels, etc... The treat does not have to be expensive, since each student will have close to 20 different treats to eat. The party lasts about 20 minutes and is usually at the end of the day. If you cannot afford this, don't worry. We are always full after the party. Everyone joins in whether they bring a treat or not. Thanks

Glowing Moments:

Each week we spotlight a student. I have them bring in a poster with pictures and words telling us about them. This poster can be one from a previous year with a few new pictures added. The week assigned is by alphabetical order of last names. Therefore, if your last name starts with an “A”, then know it is coming up fast. I am also flexible and can change the day if you and your family will be gone. This is just a fun way to get to know the family.

Birthdays:

The birthday child will get a small poster with a certificate and autographed boarders. Also, we ask you to donate a treat for your child to give out. If you cannot afford this, please let me know in advance. A ribbon bird is made especially for the birthday child. If it is a summer birthday, please pick an “Un-birthday date” during the year. Must be done before May, please.

Magnificent Seat:

Each day I choose two students that have given their best, have done something extra that day, or have shown improvement. They receive kudos in the classroom as well as 10 Shaw Bucks and sitting on cushions during the day. Other benefits are included.

Mountain Math and Mountain English:

This is work that is alternated each week. The work is on the bulletin board and must be completed. If you would like to come in and take a picture of it to help your child at home, that is wonderful. If you can help me put it on my website, that would be very helpful to me. => This won't start for a couple of months.

Creative Art:

This will get old to you after a year, but know that it benefits your child. Please know you are only to assist. Please let them figure out a creation, but you can help with ideas. Let them show their “creative juices” as each month some “stuff” will be sent home for your child to put together and create something unique and creative. They will be judged and displayed in the hallway. They are always given over a weekend so that they will have plenty of time to get creative. The “items” are in a ziplock bag which must be returned with the directions. **Please return the bag and directions for reuse each month. 100 points can be earned on this Art project. If late, the Art grade will be affected. If bag and instructions are returned, they also get Shaw Bucks for being responsible in returning the bag.**

Misc:

Learn to play the recorder, learn to ski or snowboard, be on TV with Weather School, Learn some French, Fly to Paris, possibly incubate eggs/ chicks, Power Point Presentation of County Reports, Utah County Fair, Animal Reports, lots of singing, Chess and Checker Tournament, Mancala challenge, Spelling Bee, Memorize and locate all the counties of Utah, great map skills, memorize and locate all 50 states on a map, etc...

Class Schedule: The class schedule is copied below to help in knowing what will be missed if your child is absent.

Please fill out this form and return it to Mrs. Shaw by Aug. 31st at the latest. Thanks.
Some of these might be on the School’s Website, I just want to be sure it’s done.

I give permission for my child to keep a journal throughout the 2020-2021 school year.

Yes _____ No _____

I give permission for my child to have his/her picture taken at special events and activities throughout the 2020-2021 school year for use in classroom displays, for the school yearbook, and for other special school activities.

Yes _____ No _____

I give permission for my child to hold a chick during the embryology lesson during the 2020-2021 school year. This might not happen, we’ll see.

Yes _____ No _____

My child may ride the school bus to the Nature Center and Murray Museum located in Murray during the 2020-2021 school year.

Yes _____ No _____

Please feel free to call me anytime with questions or concerns about your child. I can be reached at 801-264-7416 x5607 gshaw@murrayschools.org cell phone 801-554-8320

I have read and understand the information in the disclosure statement.

Student's Name _____ -

Parent's
Signature _____

Date _____

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
8:20 1 st Bell					
8:20- 8:30	Breakfast/Lexia	Breakfast/Zearn	Breakfast/Reflex	Breakfast/Computer	Breakfast/Com
8:30- 8:55 8:55- 9:00	Opening/Lunch/Goal Writing, Circle, Q.S.	Opening/Lunch/Goal Writing QS , Journal	Opening/Lunch/Goal Journal, Q.S. Circle	Opening/Lunch/Goal Journal, QS, Circle	Opening/Lunch Assembly Time
9:00- 9:45	Reading / LA/Eng, Sp.	Reading / LA/Eng, SP.	Reading / LA/Eng, SP.	Reading / LA/Eng, SP.	Lucky L. /Spelli Test
9:45- 10:15	Win Walk	Win Walk	Win Walk	Win Walk	Encycl. / Utah History
10:15- 10:25	Break	Break	Break	Break	Break
10:25- 11:00	Math	Math	Math	Math	Math
11:00- 11:45	Math	Math	Math	Math	Math
11:45- 12:10	Novels	Second Step	Novels	Novels	Round Robin/F
12:10- 12:15	Clean Up	Clean Up	Clean Up	Clean Up	Clean Up
12:15 – 12:55	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch
12:55- 1:00	Sanitize/Sci. Exp.	Sanitize/Sci. Exp.	Home	Sanitize/Sci. Exp	Round Robin
1:00- 1:20	Reading Corner	Reading Corner		Reading Corner	Round Robin
1:20- 2:00	Library (Specials) PLC	Yoga-P.E. (Specials)		Art (Specials)	Computers (Specials)
2:00- 2:10	Recess	Recess		Recess	Recess
2:10- 2:40	Sci/ Soc. St.	Sci./Soc. Stu.		Sci. /Soc. Stu.	Sci./ Soc. St.
2:40- 2:45	Clean Up	Clean Up		Clean Up	Clean Up
2:45	Home	Home		Home	Home
