

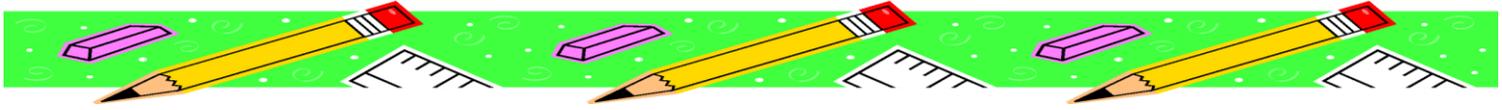


Christian Academy of Louisville

English Station Campus

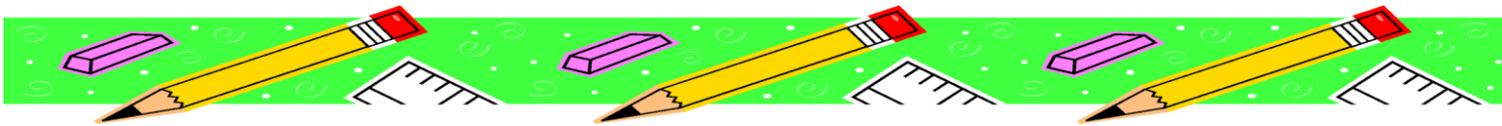
Fourth Grade Handbook

Updated June 2016



Please use this 4th Grade Handbook as a reference for questions that may arise during the school year. We look forward to working with you and your child as we anticipate a fantastic school year.

- CAL English Station 4th Grade Teachers



Welcome!

We are so excited to welcome you to the 4th grade. We cannot wait to begin working with you this year to help your child grow not only academically but also spiritually and emotionally. We firmly believe that by working together with you we will be able to provide your child the most outstanding education this year. One of the classroom teacher's tasks is to find each child's special gifts and affirm those God-given gifts through meaningful classroom experiences. We hope that this handbook will allow us to start out this year with good communication between the classroom and your home.

Parent Visits and Communication

The fourth grade teachers are firm believers in the importance of open communication between school and home. We must be in contact in order to be a united team in helping your son or daughter this year. We will send emails often to keep you informed at home of what we are doing in the classroom. We encourage you to write notes, emails, or leave phone messages for us whenever you have a concern or question. Please do not hesitate to ask or share anything. Messages and special classroom news will be available through use of teacher blogs, weekly newsletters sent through emails, agendas, and weekly practice sheets.

Parents are always welcome to come and visit in the classroom. We believe that if the students see you in the classroom then they will see firsthand how important their education is to you and therefore it will become a priority

to them as well. However, we do ask that you contact your child's teacher beforehand to see when an appropriate time would be for you to come. Many times we are testing or teaching new concepts and need to have the students' undivided attention. Please remember that it is the school policy to check in at the office when you arrive on campus, then stop in the Elementary office before coming to the room. Scheduled parent conferences will be available during the year to discuss your child's progress.

Practice and Daily Work

Homework (Practice) is a vital link between school and home. It provides opportunities for your child to assume responsibility and gives you a first-hand experience observing your child's strengths and weaknesses in work and study habits, as well as academic content. Our desire is to set a routine of study habits after school. While we do not anticipate new assignments, it is possible that your child may have some unfinished work to complete. In addition, we expect students to routinely practice math facts, study for upcoming tests, and read as ways of creating this pattern of success.

Students will bring home graded daily work in their binder in the "Keep at Home" file. All daily work will be evaluated and it is important to your child's school success. Please know that we record grades on daily work only after students have had some time in class to practice these new concepts. Please show interest in your child's achievements by looking at the work in his/her folder daily. Teachers may ask for certain tests such as Reading, Math, or Science to be signed and returned to school.

Curriculum Topics

Christian Education

The 4th grade curriculum is mostly made up of units focused on elements of the Christian faith, at a 4th grade level of understanding. We study many topics such as *Salvation, Prayer, Scripture study, Heaven, and Who are God, Jesus, & the Holy Spirit?* Students will also practice looking up Scripture verses; therefore, each child needs a NIV translation of the Bible. A weekly memory verse will also be assigned.

Social Studies and Science

We alternate Science & Social Studies units each quarter. The students will study the topics below.

Social Studies Topics

- Kentucky State Symbols
- Kentucky Regions
- Kentucky Resources
- First Kentuckians/Native Americans
- Early Settlers of Kentucky
- American Revolution
- The Civil War
- Economics
- Kentucky Government

Science Topics

- Living Things
- Insects and Spiders
- Plants
- Forces and Machines
- Electricity and Magnetism
- Weathering and Erosion
- The Earth's Resources
- Digestion

Math

Students will be using a textbook series, *Go Math!* from HMH Publishing. This resource provides both text and technological resources from which to study mathematics in 4th grade. The teachers use a variety of classroom resources to meet the math needs of all our students, both in the classroom, as well as from anywhere the students can access a digital device. Topics for the year are:

Place Value

Addition & Subtraction

Multiplication & Division

Fractions & Decimals

Geometry, Measurement, & Data

Language Arts

Reading

Students complete 8 Foundation and Framework Units where we will study *Character, Cause & Effect, Plot, Main Idea, Setting, Drawing Conclusions, Compare & Contrast, and Problem Solving* within their reading novels. We conduct reading groups within our reading time in class. Students will be required to complete one book report for each quarter. Some of these book reports will be completed at home, and others will be completed at school. We will provide rubrics and detailed information of how these should be completed.

Spelling

Spelling words will be assigned on Thursday and students will be tested every Wednesday. This allows students to have two extra days of study time over the weekends. We will practice our spelling words in class through the use of our spelling workbooks.

Writing

We will use the writing curriculum “Being a Writer”. We will study authors, discuss traits of writing, and keep a writing notebook. Students are going to become writers this year and love every minute of it.

Miscellaneous

Field Trips

Due to the school policy of including field trip fees as part of the yearly tuition, we will have a set amount to use for field trips. We will try and balance the chaperones so that all parents who want to may attend at least one trip this year. When the forms are sent home please let your teacher know ASAP if you want to accompany us. Some trips are more restrictive than others on the number of chaperones we may have. Likely field trips will include The Parklands, The State Capitol, Fort Harrod, and the Farnsley-Moreman Landing.

Book Orders

A packet of Scholastic Book Club orders will come home about once a month. Please consider ordering books from these. The prices are great, the turn-around on delivery is just about one week, there are no tax or delivery charges, and our classroom library will grow with every order you place! If you choose to order, please write just one check payable to Scholastic, even if ordering from several different issues. We cannot order any questionable products (Harry Potter, Halloween, or otherwise scary or blatantly non-Christian type of books).

Birthdays

Please feel free to celebrate your child's birthday at school! Just please let your teacher know when you are coming or sending in a treat so we can plan accordingly. However, we do ask that you refer to the "Healthy Snack List" that your teacher has provided, or only send in fruit or some type of treat that is not just a sugary snack. This is an elementary-school wide policy, and we appreciate our parents following it, for the sake of all our children. Please also respect any food allergies that exist in your child's classroom. Your teacher will also inform you of these at the start of the school year. Please send in enough paper products with the treat for the students in the classroom (napkins or plates will suffice).

Water Bottles

We believe in the value of hydration. We encourage all students to have a water bottle with them in the classroom. Please help your child stay healthy by providing this.

**"Train a child in the way he should go
and when he is old he will not depart from it."**



CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

SCHOOL SYSTEM

*education with a **Higher** purpose*

www.cashools.us