



*Dear 4C families,*

*Welcome to 4<sup>th</sup> grade! It is wonderful that you have come to visit and hear information about your child's 4<sup>th</sup> grade program. Our year ahead will be filled with excitement, discovery and lots of learning!*

*On the following pages you will find general classroom information, routines and grading practices. (A description of the fourth grade curriculum is on the school and district websites.) If at any point you need clarification on any topic or have any questions about our program, please let me know. Also, please feel free to contact me with any information you feel would be helpful for me to know about your child. The lines of communication are always open. I'm looking forward to working together this year.*

*Thank you for attending Open House. I hope you enjoy your evening!*

*Sincerely,*

*Mrs. Michelle G. Correll*

Classroom Teacher - Mrs. Michelle G. Correll  
Grade 4C \*\*\* 19 students  
Holland Hill Elementary School \*\*\* Classroom # 15  
Hours: 8:00/8:10 - 2:45  
School Telephone Number - 255-8314  
e-mail: mcorrell@fairfieldschools.org  
(For **non**-immediate needs only)

THANKS to *all families* for classroom support!

### **4C Specials**

**Recess/Lunch** – 10:50-11:45 daily

A – Music, PE

B – Spanish

C – LLT (Library Learning Time), Spanish

D – Music, PE

E - Art

### **Classroom Management/Discipline**



I have been trained in and apply many practices following the *Responsive Classroom* Character Education approach. It consists of practical strategies for bringing together social and academic learning in a strong and safe school community. I believe that children thrive in a positive environment and do my best to help children feel happy and safe. I rely mainly on positive reinforcement and clearly expressing my expectations in the classroom. I let children know what I expect from them, behaviorally and academically, and they feel proud to follow our rules. If, however, a child needs a reminder, I give a gentle warning. If the negative behavior continues I may decide that a change of activity or work place may be necessary or take away a portion of “free/group time” that day. We try to handle any problem that does arrive that day (through discussion, note, e-mail or telephone call) so that we can move on to a fresh start the following day.

The children know that I expect and appreciate positive behavior and little time is spent with negative behavior.

We will also follow the district’s Safe School Climate Plan.



### **Homework**

Homework is given Monday - Thursday evenings. It will usually consist of 1-2 written assignments plus reading for a minimum of 30 minutes (gradually increasing) and practicing math concepts for a minimum of 5-10 minutes. Students will also be expected to write in their writer’s notebooks a few nights each week. I expect that these activities will continue on weekends yet don’t give written weekend homework.

The written assignment(s) should take no longer than 40 minutes to complete (on average). It is a review of lessons taught at school. If your child has trouble with an assignment, *please write a note at the top of the paper*. I can help them in class. If your child has make-up or unfinished class work (*including work missed due to strings lessons*) or we are working on a long term project, this nightly homework time may be longer.

Please check your child's assignment book and assignments daily. Stress to your child the importance of doing their personal best and handing in neat assignments. Looking at your child's homework is a great opportunity for you to see what is being studied.

Our *4C Class Newsletter* is another way to keep up with classroom activities!

### Newsletter

At the end of each week we create a class newsletter. Students work in pairs to discuss topics studied throughout the week and then type a few sentences about them. It is a great way to practice our word processing and keyboarding skills! *4C News* will go home on Fridays. It should be shared with you, with your child elaborating on the topics mentioned. *The newsletter should be signed by you and your child should return it to school on Monday.* We hope you will enjoy the weekly updates and reminders!



**Testing** Assessments, both formal and informal, are given in all subject areas throughout the school year.

### Grading

Assignments will be given a grade like those listed on the report card. We have discussed that each student should give their personal best on all assignments, both those done at home as well as in school.

#### Curriculum:

- E - Exceeds Grade Level Expectations
- M - Meets Grade Level Expectations
- P - Progressing Toward Grade Level Expectations
- N - Does Not Meet Grade Level Expectations

#### Effort

- Appropriate
- Needs Improvement

Please review the Holland Hill School website for information about: **absences/tardiness, birthday celebrations, snack, lunch visits, volunteering.**

Please review the **curriculum** guidelines on the school and district websites for more information about our fourth grade curriculum.



<http://fairfieldschools.org>