

4D News

Welcome to 4th grade at Holland Hill! I am very excited to be your child's teacher this year! I just wanted to make you aware of some classroom activities that you will hear about through out the school year from your child.

Character

I follow the Responsive Classroom theory for classroom management. This theory is proven to build social skills and help achieve academic standards. This is done by creating a safe and positive environment for your child. Students will help create and establish classroom rules, take ownership of their classroom (it's not just my room, it's theirs too!), and feel more empathy and tolerance for each other.

I believe in building character in my students. Each week there will be a "Character Word of the Week." One student from the class who shows this action will be chosen as "Star Student of the Week." The "Star Student" will find out on Friday. An "All About Me" poster will go home that day and should be returned the following Friday so he/she may share it with the class during Morning Meeting.

In addition to character building, students will be creating awareness on how their actions may impact other student's feelings. An excellent resource to achieve this is using the book, "Have You Filled a Bucket Today? By Carol McCloud. This book is a guide to daily happiness for children. You may hear your child say, "You filled my bucket!" which means, "You

made me happy!" or "You dipped my bucket," which means, "You hurt my feelings." If you are interested in the Bucket Fill-osophy please visit their website, www.bucketfillers101.com. It's an excellent resource for school and home.

Homework

Homework will come home Monday through Thursday. The only thing students will be responsible for over the weekend is getting their LHJ, Letter Home Journal, signed and returned on Monday morning. Your child may also bring homework that he/she did not finish during class. I typically do not assign homework over the weekends, unless your child has been absent or fallen behind. Your child will have projects to do this year and may need to work on them on the weekends. Part of each night's homework will be to read 20 minutes and have someone from home (parent, grandparent, babysitter, etc.) sign their reading log. As with any skill, the more you practice, the better you become. Please encourage your child to read EVERY night, but it will only be assigned Monday through Thursday.



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Specials



Monday - Spanish

Tuesday – Gym and Spanish

Wednesday –Art

Thursday – Gym and Music

Friday – Music

On PE days, please be sure to send your child to school in sneakers and comfy clothes. In addition, if your student signed up to do strings it will take place on Mondays and Wednesdays. Your child is responsible to make up the work he or she missed during that time.



Snack

We will have a daily morning snack. It is important your child brings in a healthy snack to school and water to keep hydrated. Please be mindful that there are peanut, tree nut, and dairy allergies in our classroom. Students wash their hands and desks before and after eating snack to prevent the transfer of food particles. This year as fourth graders, our recess and lunch begins at 11:40 AM.



Birthdays

Birthdays are very special and important! Students are welcome to bring a small treat into school to celebrate their birthday. If your child's birthday falls on a weekend, he/she can choose a day close to their birthday to celebrate. If their birthday is in the summer, they can choose a day in June. Please be advised that we have peanut, tree nut, egg, and milk allergies in our classroom. If your child has an allergy, you may send in a bag/box of treats for them to enjoy on those special celebration days.



I will be going over these during “Back to School Night” on Monday, September 9th at 7:00 PM. If you should have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at jdepierro@fairfieldschools.org or leave a message at (203) 255-8314.

Fondly,

Ms. Jacquelyn DePierro