



Welcome to Mrs. Hutchison's Fourth Grade classroom!!

August 19, 2015

I hope you all are as excited as I am about the start of another year at Marshall Lane School! Hopefully you've seen your classroom donation supplies list for this year. If not I've attached a copy with this letter. One of the main goals for room 6 will be to focus on organizational skills. In order to help develop these skills, the supplies from the supply list can will be quite helpful. Please do not bring items that are not on the list as we don't have room in our classroom for them.

ROOM 6 EXCLUSIVE

<<Our 4th grade team is very excited about working together this year to continue implementing our Common Core State Standards (CCSS) for our grade level. We have 3 ½ - 4th grades this year and look forward to our continuation of the clustering practices we have utilized for the last 4 years. We will be assessing the students in the next few weeks to determine the best placement for their learning styles with regards to math and reading.

Our most important and regular form of communication in room 6 will be the **Student Planner**. Your child will be bringing this home daily, starting next week, with our everyday activities and **homework** written down so you can see what we've been doing in room 6. We want each student to develop good work habits. **Please take a few minutes each night to look over your child's homework and monitor his or her progress each evening.** The Planner must be signed and turned in each **Friday morning**. It tells you what assignments need to be done for homework, upcoming class assignments, quizzes, and CCSS assessments. It also tells you about important events at school, reminders, etc. I will be **requiring** 20 min. of reading 4x per week (this is a district-wide requirement), as well as a reflective writing portion. This is called the Weekly Reading Log.

This year for our reading/language arts our district has chosen to adopt the Engage New York curriculum, and the math curriculum is Eureka Math. They are both aligned to the CCSS standards and are quite comprehensive. Traditional textbooks will not be issued for these subjects as the curriculum is e-based and utilizes a variety of reading sources. We will continue to use literature books in our Book Club and our social studies and science books will still be used also.

Our traditional field trips are to Mission San Juan Bautista, and our end of the year swim party at the Campbell Rec. Center. We will let you know about others as we narrow them in. We would like to take the bus so we will be asking for a field trip **donation** to cover the costs for both. The dates are not set, in stone, but we'll let you know when they happen as soon as we know. Another important day is our Gold Rush living history day. This is not a field trip per se, but a living history day put on by you, our wonderful Marshall Lane 4th grade parents. That date is Friday, May 20, 2016, so mark your calendar as we will need as much help as possible. We will all work together to make sure the students get a better understanding of what life was like during the 1850s in California. The students love this amazing traditional 4th grade living history day.

The library and Tech Lab are not open yet, but when they do open we will need volunteers to help out with checking out books and showing students how to perform simple word processing and internet work on the computers. Also, the PTA asks that we have Room Parents to coordinate activities with the PTA and activities with the students. You can let me know if you're interested in helping out with these jobs or other various classroom necessities at Back to School Night. (Wed. 9/3 @6:30 PM)

In your child's white envelope this week you will find a district packet with important

documents inside. There is a packet of papers you must sign and return ASAP. They are all together in the packet so keep an eye out and you should be able to find them.

Finally, there are typically up to 30 students in room 6, with the potential for up to 32. The curriculum is noticeably more rigorous. Fourth grade is a shift from "learning to read" to "reading to learn." It is important that everyone is courteous, works quietly, stays in their seat, and allows others to be successful. It's a big jump from 24 students per teacher to up to 30+, and we have more classroom minutes than previous grades. So the students will have to adjust to being more independent and self-sufficient this year. The Planner will help them with this adjustment. Also please

- MARK YOUR CHILD'S sweatshirts, backpacks, water bottles and lunches with his/her name in case it gets misplaced.
- Anytime you have to send money or a check to school (checks preferred), **please put it in an envelope with your child's name on it and to whom the check goes i.e. PTA, etc. Loose cash can become misplaced.**
- If your child has a birthday and you want to share it with a treat or small gift, please **let me know 24 hours ahead of time** so I'll be ready.

I am looking forward to the 2015-2016 school year and I will strive to make sure your child will enjoy all of the challenges and rewards of being in 4th grade at Marshall Lane. If you need to contact me my phone # is 364-4259 ext. 4406. My email address is jhutchison@campbellusd.org. Please feel free to call or e-mail me if you need to. Back to School Night is September 2, so I hope to meet you all that evening at 6:30.

(Please indicate that you have read this by signing the bottom and returning the bottom portion to me, thank you.)

(CUT BELOW and return bottom)

Welcome letter for Room 6, 2015-16 school year.

Student's name: _____

Parent's/guardian
signature: _____

Parent/guardian name (very important):

Parent/guardian email (also very important):
