

welcome to

FOURTH
GRADE

with

Mrs. Giaconia



Back to School Night
2021 - 2022

welcome to

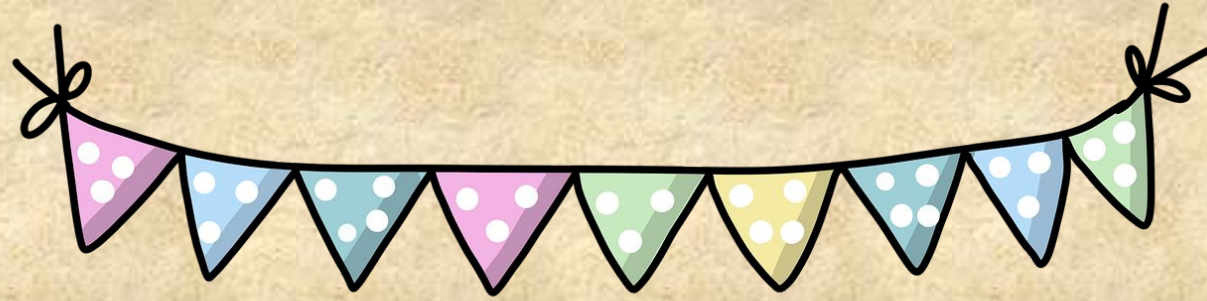
FOURTH
GRADE

AND

Mrs. Cooney (Literacy)

Mrs. Goldheimer (Math)

Mrs. Scigliano (Para)



Always Check My Class Page For Updates!

(homework, reminders, resources, and more!)

If you have not already done so, check out
the Remind App tab to join
Mrs. Giaconia's 4th Grade Class
for reminders and updates sent straight to
your phone!



Communication
is key to keep the Home to
School Connection

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Mrs. Jennifer Giaconia

Hello! I am thrilled to be with your child in 4th grade this year! This is my fourteenth year of teaching, and my fourth here at Elms! Previously, I worked at two different public schools in Bergen County where I taught 1st grade, 2nd grade, and 3rd grade. I have also been a mentor and academic coach to new teachers. I love to be organized, and I hope to pass that along to my students. I expect everyone to have a positive attitude towards learning and show respect each and every day. My husband and I relocated from northern New Jersey to Toms River. We welcomed our daughter, Emily, almost two years ago. I'm looking forward to a fantastic year ahead of us!



Mrs. Giaconia with her husband and daughter



Chromebooks

- Expected to be in class on EVERY day with the charger
 - Needs to be fully charged
- Earbuds need to be kept in school so students always have access to them

If your child's Chromebook isn't working, send it in with the cord so it can be sent to be repaired and a loaner will be issued

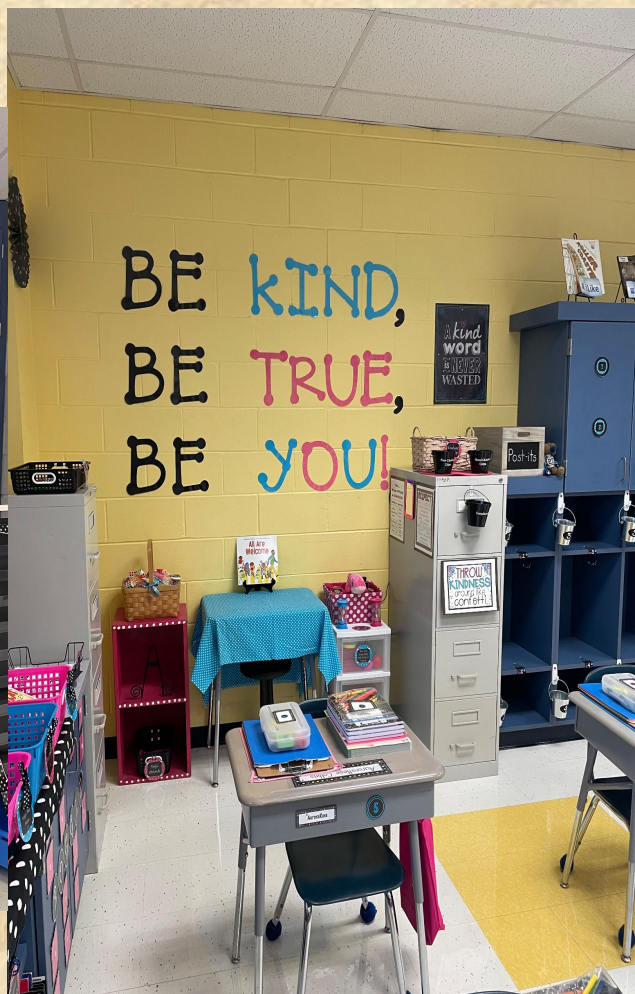
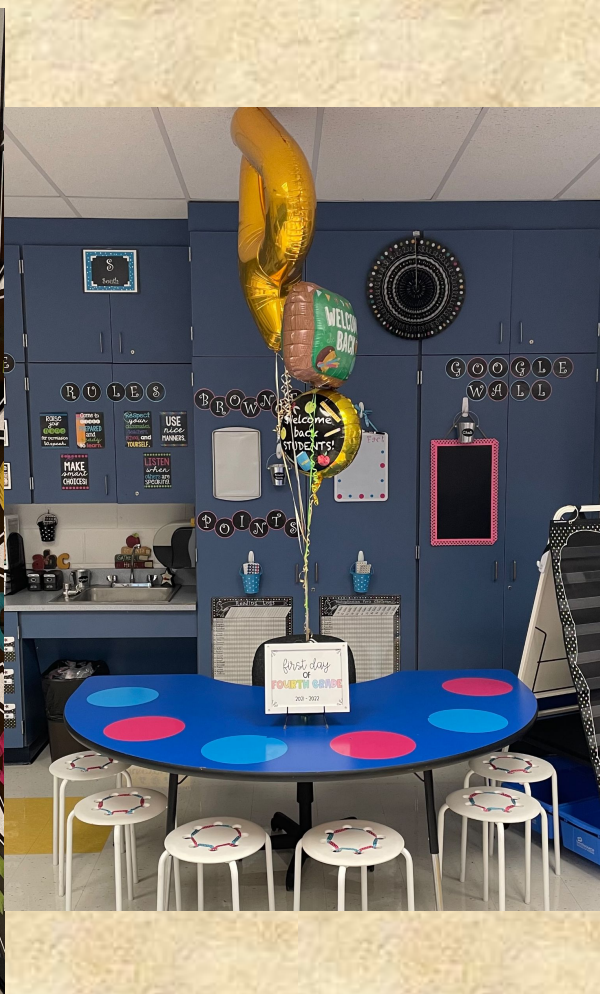


Walk Through Our Day...

- Morning Routine
- Reader's Workshop
- Grammar *NEW* (Patterns of Power)
- Writer's Workshop
 - WIN
- Lunch (11:40 - 12:10)
 - Math
 - Special
 - Recess
- Science/SS/Health
- Afternoon Routine



Home Sweet Classroom





Home Sweet Classroom





Home Sweet Classroom





Homework

- Your child will write in their Planner (expected delivery end of September/early October) AND posted on my web page
- Usually always Math and Reading Log (if you are with me for Literacy). Sometimes will also be other subject such as Writing, Grammar, Science, Social Studies, or Health
 - Homework Tickets for a full week of HW = Pick 4 students each month for lunch with the teacher outside
 - Reading Log Chart = every turned in log earns a sticker. For every 5 stickers can pick a prize for the basket.
- Test Folders = sign cover sheet and return EVERYTHING



Reader's Workshop

Unit 1: The Heart of the Story
(Interpreting Characters)

Unit 2: *Reading the Weather, Reading the World*
(Conducting Research)

Unit 3: *The American Revolution*
(Reading About History)

Unit 4: *Historical Fiction Clubs*
(Book Clubs)



What Does Reader's Workshop Look Like?

- Start with a minilesson to model skill or strategy
 - **Reading Bags:** folder, notebook, post-its, bookmarks (do not go home at this time)
- Independent reading while teacher conferences
 - **Respond to literature:**
R (restate), A (answer), C (cite), E (example), S (sum it up)
 - Improvement in fluency, expression, comprehension, and even writing!
- **Cross-curricular ties to Social Studies and Science**



Writer's Workshop

Unit 1: The Arc of Story

(Writing Realistic Fiction - Narratives)

Unit 2: Boxes and Bullets

(Personal and Persuasive Essays - Opinion)

Unit 3: Bringing History to Life

(Informational)

Unit 4: The Literary Essay

(Writing About Fiction)



What Does Writer's Workshop Look Like?

- On-Demand Writing to begin each Unit
 - Start with a minilesson to model skill or strategy
- Use Mentor Text to support the writing genre currently being worked on
- Independent writing while teacher conferences with students
 - Writing checklist and making goals throughout unit
- Go through writing process: planning/prewriting, drafting, revising (A.R.M.S.), editing (C.O.P.S.), and publishing
- Some writing will be published handwritten and others on the Chromebook



Grammar (Patterns of Power)

- 2 Week Cycle
- Mentor Sentence and Focus Phrase will guide each cycle
- Activities in comparing and contrasting similar sentences, creating imitation sentences, and using skill to edit given work and even in own writing pieces



Math Topics

Place Value Understanding

Addition and Subtraction

Multiplication and Division

Fractions and Decimals

Interpreting Data

Algebra

Geometry

***Spiral Back to different topics**



What Does Math Look Like?

- Common Core Daily Review (from previous lesson and using Math Notebook) *sent home in Test Folders*
- Problem solving strategies
- Mastering multiplication and division Facts
Monthly Math Fact Calendars and Daily Math Fact Challenge

Envision 2.0 Math Series

Pearson Realize - work and videos will be posted on my Google Classroom

XtraMath - focusing on speed and accuracy of addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division facts



Science and Social Studies

switches every so many weeks

- Note-taking and research skills
- Occasional projects may be assigned to complete either in class or at home
- Some topics will go along with our Reading and Writing Units (ex. American Revolution and Extreme Weather)
 - Notebook grade



Health

MOST Fridays

Topics will range from, but are not limited to...

Personal Growth/Wellness

Alcohol, Tobacco, and Other Drugs

Family Life

Community Health Skills

Character Education

(Kindness Confetti)



Classroom Management

- **Class Dojo:** earned for teamwork, participation, helping others, being on task, persistence, and working hard = for every 20 points, students can pick from the Prize Catalog (parents can view points)
- **Brownie Points:** class can earn for good behavior and compliments from other teachers = for every full pan, a class vote for a class prize (ex. PJ Day, popcorn and movie)
- **We are Sweet:** a lollipop for one student each day for model behavior the entire day

Wow Beads: earned for a "wow" action = beads turned in for a certificate



Bonus Stars

For every 5 star stickers = prize from the prize basket

* Earned for the following:

- reading over the weekend
(fill out and resubmit Reading Log)
- extra math problems for Homework
- any extra work done at home and placed in the Bonus Bin



Birthdays

- Treats may be sent in to celebrate your child's birthday during lunch
 - Items can be sent in with your child in the morning
- If your child already celebrated their Birthday in September, you can still send in something if you would like :-)
 - We have 24 students in our class



Report Cards

- At Elms Elementary School we used a standards based report card.
- Instead of receiving one grade for each subject, each subject is broken up into standards. (*List of the the most important skills students should be learning in each subject*)
ex: Math - Operations and Algebraic Thinking (Multiplication and Division), Fractions, Geometry, Measurements and Data.
- Parents can see exactly which skills their children are expected to learn and how well they are meeting that skills standard.



Standards Based Scoring

Progress Indicators: Academic Performance

4 – Exceeds Standards

Indicates the student **consistently surpasses** grade level standards. Performance is characterized by self-motivation and ability to apply these skills with **consistent accuracy, independence**, and high levels of quality and complexity.

3 – Meets Standards

Indicates the student **consistently meets** grade level standards. The student **regularly demonstrates** proficiency in the majority of grade level standards. The student, with **limited errors**, grasps and applies key concepts, processes, and skills for the current grade.

2 – Partially Meets Standards

Indicates the student **occasionally meets** the grade level standards. The student **often needs teacher support** to complete tasks. The student **needs more time and instruction** to develop skills.

1 – Below Standards

Indicates the student is **not yet meeting** grade level standards. The student demonstrates **minimal understanding** of concepts and skills. Performance is **inconsistent with support and interventions**.

NE – Not Evaluated

Indicates the standard was not evaluated.



Standards Based Scoring

Progress Indicators:

Character Development and Work Habit

- 4 - Consistently demonstrates grade level expectation
- 3 - Frequently demonstrates grade level expectations
- 2 - Sometimes demonstrates grade level expectations
- 1 - Infrequently demonstrates grade level expectations

Work Skills	Social Skills
Stays on task and uses time effectively	Displays self-control
Participates in classroom discussions and activities	Observes school and classroom rules
Follows directions	Demonstrates a positive attitude
Completes homework	Respects self, others, and property
Completes class work on time	Interacts appropriately with peers
Demonstrates organizational skills	Works cooperatively in groups
Demonstrates best effort	Accepts responsibility for actions



The Power of
...yet



Don't Forget...

- Write a "Love Note" back to your child
(KEEP on desk)
- Fill out the Birthday List index card
(KEEP on desk)
- Read the Discount Card Order Form
(TAKE HOME to review OR KEEP on desk if not interested)
 - Write a SNAP FACT post-it
(3 adjectives to describe 4th grade)



Thank you for visiting!!

Due to time constraints, please email me with ANY questions you may have and I will get back to you as soon as possible.

Let's work together to make this the best year ever for your child!!