

Mrs. Blessard's 4th Grade Distance Learning Class

2020-2021 Syllabus

Class Information

Welcome to 4th grade! Our class is committed to learning and adapting for the 2020-21 school year. Although we are starting off the school year with distance learning, technology offers us many incredible opportunities to learn, interact, explore, and demonstrate knowledge. I am very excited to teach this class and my goal is to provide a wonderful learning experience for these students during this unprecedented time.

Expectations and Goals

Students will attend class Monday through Friday via Google Meets (until the blended model of learning is implemented). They will utilize the same Google Meets link every day, found at the top of their Google Classroom. Google Classroom will be the primary platform through which students will access assignments, assessments, and other resources. It can be accessed through ClassLinks (<http://myclasslink.com/chino>) using students' district username and password.

Students will engage in a combination of synchronous (live with the teacher) and asynchronous (independent) instruction (please see weekly schedule below). Please see the Distance Learning Expectations page on my class website to review our classroom norms.

Required Materials

Students will need to use a computer or Chromebook with a camera, microphone, and reliable internet connection to participate in class and complete classwork. Headphones/earbuds are optional, but encouraged if they will help students to hear, participate in, and focus on instruction and class discussions.

I plan to have students utilize technology to its fullest learning potential. However, I believe paper-and-pencil is still a valuable format for learning as well. I encourage students to obtain the following supplies in addition to their device:

- 5-subject notebook (students will take notes and plan out projects for ELA, Math, Writing, Science, and Social Studies)
- Pencils with an eraser
- Pens (blue and black)
- Multi-colored highlighters
- Multi-colored Post-It notes
- Wide-ruled paper

These are the same materials that will be used in class, when the blended learning model begins.

Assignments and Feedback

As we start the school year with distance learning, students will complete assignments both synchronously (live during instruction) and asynchronously (individually at their own pace). Unless otherwise instructed, assignments will be accessed and submitted via Google Classroom. Synchronous assignments will receive

immediate feedback; asynchronous assignments will be returned via Google Classroom with feedback attached.

Assignments will be completed using a variety of platforms, as I determine which platform is best suited to the learning target of that assignment. Regardless, they will always be accessed through ClassLinks or Google Classroom.

When blended learning begins, students will complete assignments in class and through Google Classroom. However feedback will vary from using in-person as well as online methods.

Assessments

Student learning will be assessed through a combination of classwork, tests/quizzes, projects, and homework. Our class will follow school and district guidelines for formal assessments. Students are expected to complete all assessments independently, without outside help. In addition to encouraging good work habits and academic integrity, it is important for me to accurately assess what students know and in which areas they need a greater challenge or additional support.

Homework

Although all of our instruction is beginning virtually at home, I expect students to engage in independent practice and work outside of our instructional time together. Outside of class time students will be expected to complete daily assigned math practice and read for 20 minutes each day.

Grades

Students will receive standards-based grades (1, 2, 3, 4) on major assignments and assessments. Overall trimester grades will assess each student's progress towards mastery of 4th grade state standards, and will be determined by both performance in class and on submitted work. I will communicate student progress throughout each trimester and continuously identify areas of support.

For more information on standards-based grading and report cards, please refer to the [district website](#).

Contact Information

For the fastest response, please email: aaren_blessard@chino.k12.ca.us.

I will also be utilizing Class Dojo for group/individual communication and class announcements. Class Dojo invites/codes will be sent out during the first week of school.

After we have completed the instructional minutes for each school day, I will be available on Google Meets for Virtual Office Hours. My virtual office hours will be as follows:

Non-minimum days (*Monday, Tuesday, Thursday*): **2:20pm - 3:05pm**

Minimum days (*Wednesday*): **12:00pm - 12:45pm**

If you would like to schedule a time to meet with me outside of these office hours, please contact me to arrange an appointment. I will do my absolute best to accommodate.

Weekly Schedule

Non-minimum Days

(Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday)

8:40 – 10:15: ELA

10:15 – 10:30: Break

10:30 – 12:05: Math

12:05 – 12:45: Lunch

12:45 – 1:15: Science/Social Studies

1:15 – 1:35: PE

1:35 – 1:50: Break

1:50 – 2:20: DELD

Minimum Days

(Wednesday)

8:40 – 9:10: Second Step

9:10 – 9:40: DELD

9:40 – 9:55: Break

9:55 – 10:25: Additional Support for ELA

10:25 – 10:55: Additional Support for Math