

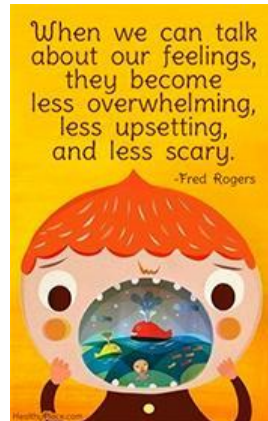
Welcome to 4th Grade!

Ms. Wilson's parents, please sit at your child's desk. The chairs surrounding the classroom will be for Mrs. Hall's parents.

A Word from our New Counselor...

Anna Carlisle

- [Click this link for an introduction from Mrs. Carlisle](#)



A word from the PTO...

- <https://mbs.eduvision.tv/ajax/./Default.aspx?q=CT1wecDsedByRIZAH7sA%3d%3d>

The Mountain Brook Schools Foundation

- *Thank you to all of you who have contributed to the Mountain Brook City Schools Foundation. Because of your support, our school has received funding for library enhancements, technology initiatives and professional development that benefits each and every teacher.*
- *The Foundation has contributed almost \$6 million to the school system since it was founded in 1992.*
- *We appreciate the Foundation and your support of the good work it does.*



4th Grade Policies & Expectations

- A copy of the 4th grade policies and expectations has been provided for you.
- This information will also be linked on your child's class web page.
- Please read it in your spare time. 😊

Rotating Classes & Schedule

Day/Time	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
7:40-8:15	Morning Work/ Morning Meeting	Morning Work/ Morning Meeting	Morning Work/ Morning Meeting	Morning Work/ Morning Meeting	Morning Work/ Morning Meeting
8:15-8:50	Intervention/ Spelling & Word Work	Intervention/ Spelling & Word Work	Intervention/ Spelling & Word Work	Intervention/ Spelling & Word Work	Intervention/ Spelling & Word Work
8:50-9:25	COMPUTER LAB	LMC	ART	MUSIC	SPANISH
9:30-11:00	Block 1: Language Arts	Block 1: Language Arts	Block 1: Language Arts	Block 1: Language Arts	Block 1: Language Arts
11:05-11:40	PE	PE	PE	PE	PE
11:45-12:15	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH
12:20-1:50	Block 2: Math & Science	Block 2: Math & Science	Block 2: Math & Science	Block 2: Math & Science	Block 2: Math & Science
1:50-2:10	RECESS	RECESS	RECESS	RECESS	RECESS
2:15-2:45	AL History	AL History	AL History	AL History	RECESS & Friday Fling! (1:50-2:30)
2:45-2:50	Pack-up/Dismissal	Pack-up/Dismissal	Pack-up/Dismissal	Pack-up/Dismissal	Pack-up/Dismissal

Reading



- Students will engage in a true reading workshop where they will actively choose the text they read (most of the time).
- Skills and strategies will be taught during planned units through a mini-lesson and then students will apply them during their independent, partner, or small group reading time.
- These skills and strategies will also be reemphasized during our class read aloud.

We use a variety of resources: Lucy Calkins Units of Study, Harcourt anthology, *National Geographic Explorer*, Comprehension Toolkit (nonfiction text), novels, *Storyworks*, *Time for Kids*, etc.

Reading continued...

- Read nightly for 30 minutes and record on the Reading Log (4 out of 7 nights a week). These will be checked every Friday and it will count toward the reading grade. In addition, students are expected to complete one reading response per week in class.
- Students should have a book at school at ALL times!
- Students are encouraged to read a variety of genres.
- Students will learn how to make “just right” book choices. We want to foster a love for reading!!

Grammar



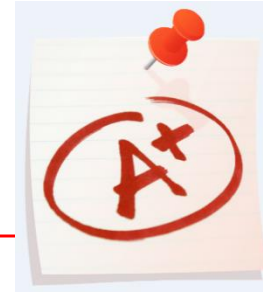
- Our goal is to teach the skills using authentic literature and hands-on activities so the students will be able to apply the rules in their writing.
- A short quiz will be given periodically that will assess your child's knowledge and application of these skills. We will record grammar rules and examples for each unit of study in the back of the Writer's Notebook.
- Units: Capitalization, Punctuation, Verbs, Pronouns, Adverbs, Prepositional Phrases, Sentence Structure, and text layout.

Writing



- The students will write narrative, informational, and persuasive/opinion pieces throughout the year.
- Resources for teaching skills and strategies: Lucy Calkins book series, Write Traits series (traits of writing), etc.
- **My main goal is to improve the writer not the writing. We want to develop lifelong writers.**
- The class will participate in whole or small group mini-lessons determined by the common core standards and by the needs of the class.

Spelling



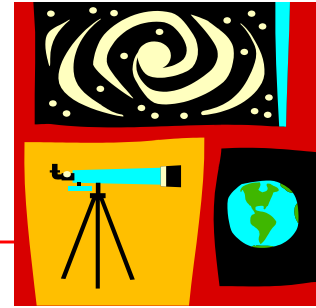
- Spelling words will be introduced on Monday. Your child will be responsible for writing them in their agenda book.
- The spelling test will be on Friday at 8:00. If your child is absent or late to school, the test can be made up during recess time.

Math



- Our adopted math program is **Investigations**; however we use many other supplemental materials to teach the common core standards.
- Number Talks- This is a time when students will be able to strengthen their mental math strategies.
- D.O.M. (Daily Oral Math)- Students will practice computation problems, word problems, and problems from “just taught” concepts; however these quizzes will be cumulative. A quiz will be given each week on **Fridays**.
- Mastery of multiplication facts is critical to success in 4th grade math. Please continue to work on these at home with your child as we will be assessing multiplication fluency every **Friday**.

Science



- Students will complete projects and assignments from the following hands-on modules: **Electric Circuits, Solar System, Structures of Life, Landforms, and Sound.** Students progress will be evaluated throughout the study of each module.
- We are currently planning field trips and guest speakers related to our units of study.

Alabama History



- Our Alabama History textbook is Alabama: Our Beautiful Home, published by Clairmont Press.
- Students will read and study the material in the textbook as well as from other sources such as Alabama Weekly.
- Students will be assessed through small group and partner projects, student created Alabama books, and unit tests which may consist of essay, multiple choice, matching, and short answer questions.
- Topics of study: Early People & Explorers, Statehood, the Civil War, Early 20th Century, and the Civil Rights Movement.
- We will visit Montgomery in the Fall, which will spark much interest in our state's past and present.

Intervention

- We will meet with individuals or small groups based on specific needs from 8:15-8:45. It is very important that your child be on time to school.



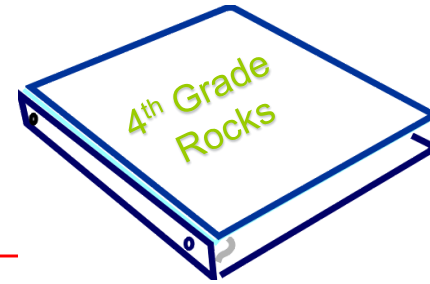
Classroom Expectations

- We believe all students are leaders; therefore we expect them to use the Seven Habits and take responsibility for their work and behavior.
- To put it simply, students should
 - Be Safe
 - Be Respectful
 - Be Responsible

Classroom Expectations

- However, we understand that from time to time students do make bad choices. Therefore, the fourth grade team uses a clip chart to help students monitor their behavior. With this system, students have the opportunity to be recognized for demonstrating leadership, as well.
- The first time a student clips down serves as a warning. Clipping down a second time will result in recess detention where he/she will reflect on their behavior by completing a Behavior Reflection Sheet. This sheet will be sent home for you to review, sign, and return the next day. Clipping down a third time or more will result in a parent contact and/or office referral.

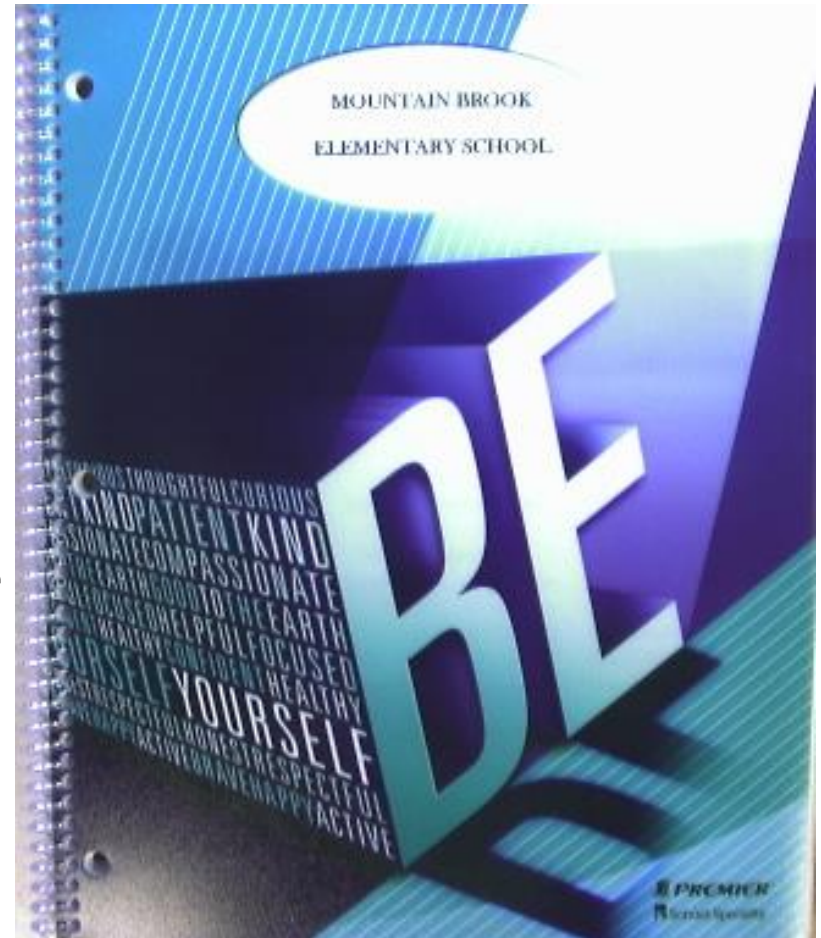
Binder



- A part of being a 4th grader is learning to be responsible and organized.
- Your child's binder is organized with pocket dividers by subject. We are coaching students on keeping their notebook orderly and neat.
- The binder should come home everyday as this is where the reading log, DOM problems, spelling words, homework, and other assignments are kept.

It's time to pack up! Agenda Books

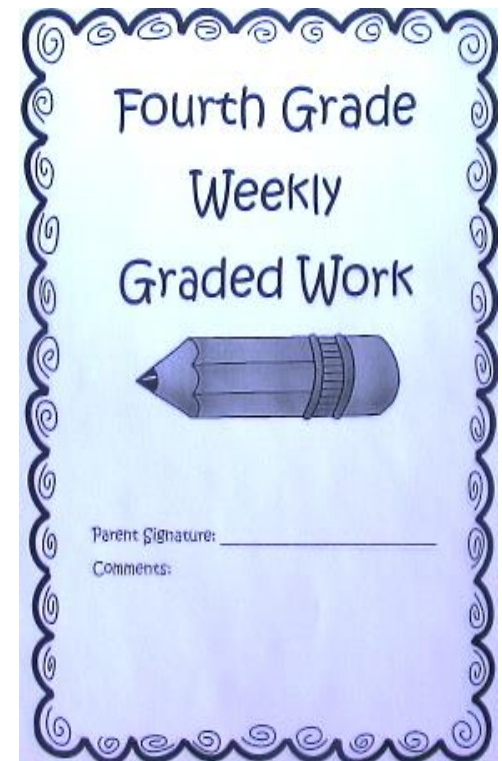
- Each day, students will record all homework assignments in his/her agenda book. Please review assignments to see that they are completed.
- If there is a frequent problem with incomplete homework, the student must have a parent sign the agenda book each night.



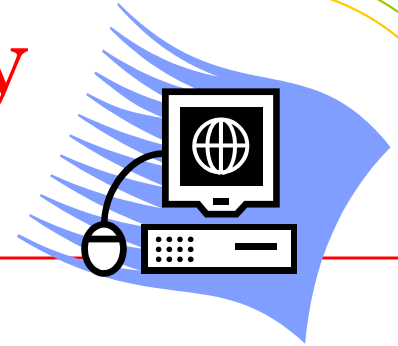


Graded Work Folder

- In an effort to inform you of your child's progress, graded work and other work samples will be sent home every **Tuesday** in the Graded Work Folder. It is important that you review these papers with your child and monitor corrections. A signature sheet will be stapled to the front and should be signed weekly. Return the graded papers by **Thursday**.
- Flyers from the office will be sent home in this folder on Tuesdays to be kept at home.



Class Web pages & Weekly Newsletter



- Please check your child's class web page for updates, class news, etc.
- On Fridays, the team newsletter will be sent home to inform you of the next week's tests, events, reminders, etc.

Reporting Progress in INOW

The screenshot shows the InformationNOW web application interface. At the top left is the logo "InformationNOW". At the top right, there is a "Welcome" message, a "Help" link, and a "Logout" link. Below this, there are two dropdown menus: "Student" and "School/Academic Session", with the value "2014-15" displayed in the second dropdown. A breadcrumb trail reads "> Home > Home Page". On the left side, there is a navigation menu with the following items: "Home", "Home Page", "Student Information", "Attendance", "Grades", "Schedule", "Reports", "Comprehensive Progress", "Report Card", "Standards Report Card", "Unofficial Transcript", and "System Preferences". Two green callout boxes are overlaid on the interface. The first callout box, pointing to the "Report Card" link, contains the text "Report Card Grades 4 - 6". The second callout box, pointing to the "Standards Report Card" link, contains the text "Card Kindergarten K-3".

InformationNOW Welcome | [Help](#) | [Logout](#)

Student School/Academic Session

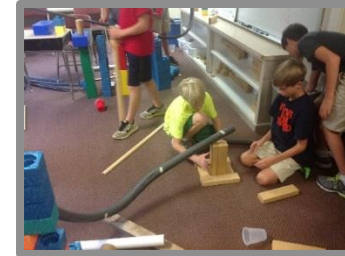
> Home > Home Page

- Home
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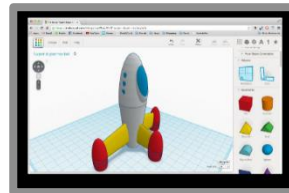
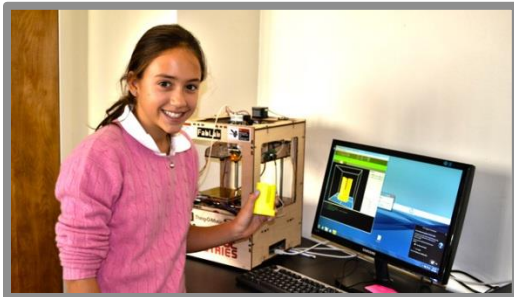
Report Card Grades 4 - 6

Card Kindergarten K-3

Last year, thanks to your donations, we created a room for hands-on building and engineering.

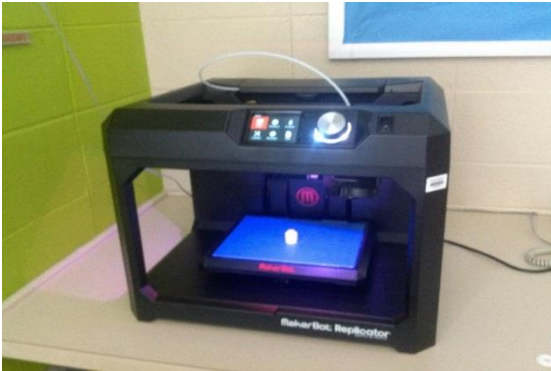


This year, we were awarded a grant to develop a room for STEAM (Science, Technology, Art, and Math) projects.



MBE Makerspace

3D Design and Printing



Please consider donating Legos.

There are Lego donation information slips outside the library door.



Please consider donating Legos for the MBE Epic Lego Walls. We need 15 inch by 15 inch gray base plates and a variety of classic Legos.

Legos can be found at Toys R Us, Walmart, Amazon.com, and EBay (bulk bags of Legos for good prices).

Please send Legos to Mrs. Millhouse's room. Thank you so much!!



**A word from our
Room Moms**