



CALEDONIA PARK SCHOOL

'Students of Today, Leaders of Tomorrow'

3206 Coady Blvd, Leduc, Alberta T9E 7J8
Phone: (780) 986-7888 Fax: (780) 986-8066



September 5, 2017

Dear Parents / Guardians:

I am extremely excited to return from maternity leave and jump into the 2017/2018 school year! This will be my ninth year of teaching at Caledonia Park, and my sixth time teaching grade four. We have approximately 24 marvelous students in our class and many exciting learning opportunities ahead! Below is an outline of important information to start off the year.

Communication

I am best reached by email at kandace.mcclements@blackgold.ca. This is how I typically communicate general classroom updates, information, and minor concerns. You can also reach me by phone at 780-986-7888, or set up an appointment to meet after school. All school newsletters will be uploaded to our school website and can be viewed at: cps.blackgold.ca/parents/newsletters.

Seesaw

I will be setting up our classroom on Seesaw, an interactive digital portfolio, which will allow students to share the work they create at school with their families in a safe and confidential environment. My goal is to solve the age old question of "What did you do at school today?" with clear and meaningful examples. I will have more information on this later in September, as I become increasingly familiar with the app.

Agendas

Each student will be given an agenda at the beginning of the school year. Students will use their agenda to communicate pertinent information to their parents/guardians about events happening in the school, daily homework, and general reminders. It is my goal to encourage independence and accountability. As such, it is the student's responsibility to bring their agendas to class each morning and share their entries with you in the evening. Please initial in the comments section once you have been shown the day's entry.

Homework

Time is given in class to start all assignments. Anything that is not completed during the allotted class time may be sent home to finish. There may be circumstances where the students are asked to complete a special assignment at home. In these cases, a note will be sent home to describe the assignment expectations. In the event that there is no homework, students are encouraged to have a regular homework routine that includes 15-30 minutes of reading.

Spelling

This year, students will not be completing weekly spelling units and tests. Instead, students will be engaged in weekly "Working with Words" activities during their Language Arts blocks. The words selected will focus on high-frequency (often irregularly spelled) words, as well as multisyllabic words that contain major prefixes and suffixes. These words will be placed on our classroom word wall and students will be held accountable to spell these words correctly in their daily writing. Students will gain a greater understanding of how to decode larger words and be able to apply their understanding in their independent writing and reading.

Phys.Ed.

Students will have three 40 minute Phys. Ed. classes per week. Your child is responsible for having the appropriate footwear and clothing for each gym class. This includes inside shoes without black soles, sweat pants or shorts, and a t-shirt.

Library

Our class has library scheduled once a week (on day 3). Each student will be able to check out two books from the library. One book will stay at school for silent reading and the other may go home for nightly reading. Please let me know if you have any requests regarding the type of book your child is selecting to bring home.

Lunch

The students will eat lunch prior to recess, from 12:00 p.m. to 12:20 p.m. in their homeroom class. Our classroom is equipped with a microwave for student use. Feel free to send healthy, microwavable lunches that are able to be heated in less than two minutes. Due to the severe allergies to peanuts, **please refrain from sending food that may contain peanuts** in any snack or lunch item.

Toys

Please encourage your child not to bring personal toys to school, as these are often lost or broken.

Lockers

Each student will be assigned a locker which they are responsible for keeping clean and organized. It is their option if they wish to have a lock on it or not. If you choose to send a lock for your child's locker, please ensure that it is a combination lock, and that they are able to unlock it. You are welcome to forward the combination to me by email in case your child has difficulty opening the lock (no key locks please).

Curriculum

I have included a general overview of the grade 4 curriculum. To access more information regarding the Alberta curriculum, feel free to visit the following website: learnalberta.ca/content/mychildslearning Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions regarding curriculum, or any other matters.

I am looking forward to working with you and your child to make this a successful and memorable school year. Please take a moment to fill out the following sheet and return it to school as soon as possible. Thank you!

Sincerely,

Kandace McClements