



Hello to all our Families!

We have been hard at work continuing to build our classroom community. In order to help us know what we need from each other, we have done several activities that we reflect on to help us learn about the following: Honesty, Encouragement, Collaboration, Cooperation, Respect, Communication, Trust, Acceptance, and Responsibility. These traits are important as we move on in order for us to create a safe learning environment.

Class Brand Project- Did your 4th grader tell you that we watch commercials in class? We analyzed several commercials with regard to music/words, motion/action, and visuals/logos. Using the character words above as a framework, we have charged the class to develop a "class brand" that will reflect our learning community. Through this task, students are taking charge of their learning. Through research, explorations and conversation, the kids determined what each word means to our classroom. They are learning to make decisions as independent learners to guide the process. We will be sure to share the final product with all of you!

Pretzel Meeting- Wednesday marked our first "pretzel meeting" a a fourth grade class. This weekly meeting provides each child an opportunity to compliment and correct classmates. Each compliment is accompanied by a pretzel, and each reminder costs one. This student run meeting helps us all stay on track, and builds strong communication skills. Ask your fourth grader if he/she enjoyed the pretzel meeting. The compliments were plentiful this week!

Math Workshop: Thinking about numbers and learning how to think about math has been the focus of our Math Workshop. Yep, in 4th grade we call it a workshop because your children will learn to be independent learners during this time also. They will need to make decisions about what is best for them, learn to take risks, know that having a different opinion or thought that another is just fine (and actually helps us understand math in all kinds of ways). Ask your child about our grocery store challenge and what they learned about themselves as a math thinker. After a rather chaotic lesson on Monday we learned that in order to have a successful Math Workshop everyone had expectations, even the teachers! Our workshop will always start with a number talk to help strengthen number sense. Next week we will continue modeling and learning how to make the workshop successful before starting the first unit.

How does my child know what to do? You can ask your child about the modeling and conversations we have had about our daily routines. Ask them about the morning routine, morning message, respectful way we come to morning greeting, how we line up, taking care of things in the room, how to talk to others in the room, where do I keep my work folder, how do we sit for read aloud, etc...

Scholastic Math Inventory and Scholastic Reading Inventory

The 14-15 school year will be the second year that Hilliard students in 2nd through 5th grade will take the Scholastic Reading and Math Inventory (SRI and SMI). These are just some of the many assessments we use to help monitor student progress, and to help the district track areas of strength and areas in where improvement is needed. The SRI and SMI are computer adaptive, research based assessments given in the fall and winter. Our class will be taking them on the following dates:

SMI on: September 3th @ 10:30am

SRI on: September 12th @ 10:30am

Please know that students with allowable testing accommodations on their 504 plan or IEP may be tested on a date different from our classroom. Contact your child's special education teacher if you have questions about your child's specific testing date. If your child is absent on our testing date, the test will be made up at a later date.

Earbuds

Earbuds were left off of our supply list. We are hoping to have a pair for each child to keep at school for our many technology projects. These can be a pair you already own! The dollar tree has them as well. We will be using these for upcoming SMI and SRI testing. Read below for more information about these tests.

*Technology - We have learned word processing skills within Pages. Next week we will dive into using Google Docs!

*Fourth Grade Curriculum night will be held on Thursday, September 18th at 6pm in our room.

*Our special calendar is attached to this email so that you will have the reference.

*You will be receiving a call from either Mrs. Capretta or Mrs. Bradley next week to let you know how your child is doing so far in room 105.

Snack

Each morning after specials your child will be able to eat a healthy snack from home. I provided snacks on the first couple of days for those students who did not bring a snack, but wanted one. Please discuss with your child if they would like to have a snack. Some families have found it helpful to pack snack baggies at the beginning of the week and keep them in the back pack.

Our Daily Schedule

8:50-9:05 Morning Meeting

9:05 - 9:50 Social Studies/Science

9:50-10:30 Specials (A Day = Art B Day = Gym C Day= Music) - See schedule attached

10:30 - 12:15 Math

12:15 - 1:15 Lunch/Recess (Lunch is first this year!)

1:15-3:00 Language Arts
3:00 - 3:15 Wrap Up

Hilliard Schools' Online Flyers [Hilliard Schools' Flyer Connection](#)

All PTO, Booster and community group fliers are available online in the [Hilliard Schools' Flyer Connection](#). This means no more printing expenses for school groups and better communication with parents! All fliers are available in one location and parents can search by school or school grade level to find out about all the great things going on. Simply [click here](#) to find out about great opportunities for your student today! Learn how to submit a flyer and more online at www.hilliardschools.org/flyers/.

Calendar of Events

8/28--7:00 p.m. The Little Ice Cream Shop with PTO

9/1--NO SCHOOL--LABOR DAY

9/4--School Pictures

9/8--7:00 p.m. PTO meeting (Media Center)

9/14 - School Spirit Wear Sale Ends <http://www.darbycreekpto.com/>

9/15-- International Dot Day--More information to come..Stay tuned

9/18 - 4th grade curriculum night 6pm

10/4--AD/DC Warrior Dash

10/8- Walking Wednesday

10/13--7:00 p.m. PTO meeting (Media Center)

10/15--WALK A THON and Make up Pictures

10/16--Author Steve Harpster Visits DCR

10/17--NO SCHOOL--CENTRAL OHIO TEACHER INSERVICE DAY

10/22--6:00 Dr. Marschhausen State of the Schools Address at the ILC

10/24--6:30-8:30 PTO Family Fun Night

10/31--HALLOWEEN/FALL PARTIES

11/10--7:00 p.m. PTO meeting

11/13--CONFERENCE NIGHT

11/26-11/28--THANKSGIVING LONG WEEKEND--NO SCHOOL