

## **4<sup>th</sup> Grade Supply List**

**Below is a list of supplies that Fourth Grade Students will need for their first day of school.**

- Pencils (regular #2)
- Pens (blue or black ink)
- Colored pencils
- A single subject spiral notebook for each discipline: Math, Religion, English, Social Studies, Spanish and Science
- 6 Folders (one for each subject)
- 2 Writing Journals
- Index Cards
- One or Two Highlighters
- Glue Sticks
- Pencil Case
- Multiplication Flashcards
- 1 Pack of Loose-leaf Paper

**Below is a list of classroom supplies that are not required but always welcomed.**

- Hand Sanitizer
- Loose-leaf Lined Paper
- Tissues
- Lysol Wipes

## **Welcome to the Fourth Grade**

Dear 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Students and Parents,

Firstly and most importantly, I hope you are having an amazing summer filled with many memories that are making your break special. I cannot begin to express the excitement that I have for the chance to work with you all. The Fourth Grade is truly an important year for young minds to be fed through a variety of fun yet rigorous educational experiences. As an educator who realizes the importance of being a life long learner, I anxiously anticipate sharing in the development of your child's' inquisitive mind. As we journey through the 2015-2016 school year, your unique children will be challenged to push themselves toward success as I assist them in learning to value each moment of the Saint Joseph's educational experience. While school is often looked upon as a place that interrupts our weekends, I am fully committed to giving you and your children a year of growth and exciting mornings where you can wake to enthusiastically embrace the next Fourth Grade moment. As an individual who has worked in athletics for the past 10 years, I value the importance of working together to achieve the most rewarding amount of success.

Teamwork is necessary in competition; however, the Saint Joseph's Blue Ribbon school community can only reap the elite benefits of being one of the best through faithful members of a population coherently working toward a common goal. Whether we are working as a Fourth Grade team, collaboratively contributing in small groups within our grade or coming together in full school gatherings, I promise you and your children that our team will maintain a commitment to academics, faith and each other. Although the end of summer can often be met with dread, I hope your families will share in my enthusiasm for the first day of our new year. Enjoy every moment left in your 2015 summer; however, smile as the break comes to an end. You have an amazing Fourth Grade year waiting to welcome you.

See You Soon,

David Bongiorno (Mr. B)

## Summer Assignment

**Summer Reading:** Students are responsible for reading *James and the Giant Peach* by Roald Dahl and at least one of the books below:

- *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* by Lewis Carroll
- *The Tales of Despereaux* by Kate DiCamillo
- *Shiloh* by Phyllis Reynolds Naylor

**Summer Writing Assignment:** The characters in your summer reading books are boys and girls who gain memories that will live with them forever. How might the characters' memories help them grow? As you are enjoying your summer vacation, keep track of the memories you are developing. Pick the most important memory and construct a written explanation. Students should write a complete paragraph (5-8 sentences) that explains their most memorable happening from the summer of 2015. Here are some questions you may want to ask yourself: What is your memory? Why is this memory important to you? Does this memory help you in any way? Is this a good or bad memory?

As writers, we must make sure that we always have evidence to support our words. While students will learn to use textual evidence throughout the school year, this assignment will be supported with a visual. Find an artifact that relates to your summer memory. Artifacts can be any item associated with your moment (a photograph, ticket stub, flower, song, rock, etc...). Your artifact will support the paragraph you write by proving you actually lived this moment. The item that accompanies your paragraph will also assist you in recalling the event and explaining your memory. Whether you share about a place you may have traveled to, camp or rainy day, no memory is too big or small. You are the author and the only person who knows the importance of this memory.

## **Math**

Practicing and improving your multiplication will be very important as you enter fourth grade. While a brief review may be provided at the beginning of the year, students are expected to know their multiplication facts. Mastering your multiplication will assist in eliminating unnecessary stress as we move forward to more challenging mathematics. I will always offer assistance to any student who may be struggling to grasp a new concept; however, students should create their own multiplication flashcards. Make this a fun summer assignment by constructing flashcards that you design.

I would recommend buying index cards so that you can have a pocket sized multiplication assistant (decorate them however you would like). I also recommend creating and practicing one new set of multiplication facts per week. Below is a schedule to help outline your summer Math assignment. Students will also be asked to complete a multiplication log to create a fun challenge where you push yourself to see how fast you can identify multiplication facts. All summer work will be collected the first week of school.

**Week1- 9s times table**

**Week 2- 8s times table**

**Week 3- 7s times table**

**Week 4- 6s times table**

**Week 5- 5s times table**

**Week 6- 4s times table**

**Week 7- 3s times table**

**Week 8- 2s and 1s times table**

My outline is only a suggestion. Feel free to complete your flashcards more quickly, but make sure you devote time (10-15 minutes per day) to become a master of multiplication. Your flashcards will allow you to practice in any environment: long car ride, on the beach, etc...The Math Multiplication Log can be printed out so that you can share your progress with me (one log per week). If you do not have access to a printer, feel free to document your practice on notebook paper.