August 2021

Dear Fantastic 4th Graders and Families,

Welcome to 4C!!! I am so excited to be your teacher and can’t wait to meet you. We are going to have a fabulous school year together full of learning and new adventures! Let me begin by telling you a bit about myself. My name is Miss Christina Chen and this will be my seventh year at Merion Elementary. Before landing in 4th grade, I taught 3rd grade, 1st grade, and kindergarten. This summer, I was busy teaching summer school, spending weekends in Margate, road tripping to Maine and Florida, and finally seeing a lot of my friends and family. Some of my year-round pastimes include checking off places on my numerous restaurant bucket lists, staying healthy at Orangetheory Fitness, going to concerts and museums (I have memberships to the Museum of the American Revolution and Franklin Institute!), trivia and board games, and hiking. Oh, and I absolutely LOVE treats, especially donuts! 😊

I have been working hard over the summer preparing engaging and meaningful activities for 4C. In addition to reading and math skills, we will be learning about Pennsylvania and its early history in Social Studies, as well as ecosystems, electricity, and the Solar System in Science. Fourth grade is also the year when you can learn a musical instrument, sing in the chorus, join various clubs, and participate in after-school sports. I cannot express how much I am looking forward to working with and getting to know you!

Families: In order to facilitate communication about classroom happenings and help create a community environment, please send me an email (chenc@lmsd.org) to be sure you are included in my class list. Please title this message 4C followed by your child’s name. Also, please answer the following questions in the body of your message:

☐ What five words best describe your child?
☐ What are your child’s strengths and interests, both in and out of school?
☐ In what areas does your child need/want to improve (subject, skill, strategy, etc.)?
☐ What motivates your child?
☐ What frustrates your child?
☐ On a scale of 1 (yikes!) to 5 (yay!), how are your child’s work/study habits?
☐ On a scale of 1 (yikes!) to 5 (yay!), how are your child’s social-emotional skills?
☐ With whom does your child live (pets included!)? What do you enjoy doing together?
☐ What are your hopes for your child’s year in fourth grade?
☐ What are your child’s hopes for fourth grade?

Students: Please be ready to share your favorite book and a token from your summer (must fit in lap)!

Lastly, I truly believe in teamwork and open lines of communication in order to help meet your child’s needs. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions or concerns. There are so many things to look forward to in fourth grade and I hope you are as ready as I am for a new school year to begin. Enjoy the rest of your summer and I’ll see you soon! 😊

Love,
Miss Christina Chen
chenc@lmsd.org
4C Recommended Supply List

*If buying supplies through Staples, please select my name or enter my rewards number 3445726155 so that I can accumulate rewards for 4C! 😊

- 1 gallon-sized Ziploc bag filled with the following supplies:
  - 24 (or more!) #2 pencils, sharpened
  - Erasers
  - Dry erase markers
  - 1 old sock (used as a whiteboard eraser)
  - Highlighters
  - Ballpoint pens, black
  - 3x3 Post-it notepads

- 1 gallon-sized Ziploc bag filled with the following supplies:
  - 24-pack of colored pencils or crayons
  - 1 pack of markers
  - 3+ Glue sticks
  - Scissors
  - 2+ Scotch tape, individual dispensers

- (1) 2-inch heavy duty 3-ring binder with clear front pocket
- (1) 3-ring pencil pouch (to go inside 2-inch binder)
- (1) Pack of 5 dividers
- (4) two-pocket solid color folders (red, yellow, green, blue)
- (2) 1-subject spiral notebooks with detachable sheets (red, yellow, blue)
- (1) pack of wide-ruled loose-leaf paper
- (1) pack of Reinforcement circle labels (for hole punches)
- Ruler with your name on it (to the ¼ inch and with centimeters)
- 1+ box of tissues for the classroom (lotion-free)
- Inexpensive laptop earbuds (to fit in binder pencil pouch)
- Independent reading book (read daily in class and during dismissal)
- Nutritious snack(s) daily, beginning on the first day (nut-free, please!)
- Water bottle to keep in cubby
- Beach towel to be kept in cubby