Welcome to 4th grade with Ms. Roberts!



Parent Involvement is all about the children. Participation in your child's education is proven to boost his or her achievement in school. We are committed to treat parents as partners while keeping lines of communication open and focused on the needs of your child. Mutual trust and respect between parents and teachers is required to maintain a positive learning experience at any school.

Together, with your support, we'll have a phenomenal 4th grade year!

Ms. Roberts' Parent Involvement Philosophy: Parent Involvement is all about the children. Participation in your child's education is proven to boost his or her achievement in school. I am committed to treat parents as partners while keeping lines of communication open and focused on the needs of your child. Mutual trust and respect between parents and teachers is required to maintain a positive learning experience at any school. I believe that your trust in Arrowhead is required to ensure your child's success.

English Language Arts: We will utilize the Amplify CKLA (third edition) program for Reading, Spelling, Writing and Grammar. All of the components of this program are available online through the Amplify app. Students will read a variety of texts, and reflect on their reading in writing. Students will learn about cause and effect, point of view, character traits, main idea and details, compare and contrast, author's purpose, story elements, sequencing, theme, inferences, and different genres. Students will write in different genres also- personal narrative, opinion/persuasive, and informational. Cursive writing is also taught in 4th grade.

Reading Curriculum: Amplify CKLA

Each Unit is comprised of

- Lessons, including Reading, Writing, Grammar, Morphology, and Spelling Activities
- A Unit Assessment that evaluated students' reading comprehension, understanding, and retention of academic and domain-specific vocabulary words, as well as grammar and morphology skills targeted in the unit. The results should guide review and enrichment offered during the end-of-unit Pausing point.
- Pausing points that present opportunities to review, reinforce, or extend the content and skills taught in each unit.

Reading: Amplify CKLA

Unit 1: Focus - My Story, My Voice: Personal Narratives
Unit 2: Focus - Knights and Castles: Europe's Middle Ages
Unit 3: Focus - Meaning and Metaphor: Poetry
Unit 4: Focus - Eureka! Student Inventor
Unit 5: Focus - Our Planet: Geology
Unit 6: Focus - Road to Independence: The American Revolution
Unit 7: Focus - Novel Study: From the Mixed-up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler
Unit 8: Focus - Novel Study: The Season of Styx Malone
Unit 8: Focus - Crafting Stories: A World of Tales
Unit 9: Focus - Inspiration and Ingenuity: American Innovation

Your child will dig deep into the 4th grade content this year. Content is directed by the Arizona College and Career Readiness Standards. To learn more about these standards please visit http://www.azed.gov/azccrs

Math: This year in math students will use i-Ready Math, Fluency Flight (i-Ready Digital), My Path (i-Ready Digital), and other resources to learn a variety of mathematical concepts this year including: Whole Numbers (place value, comparison, addition and subtraction), Operations (multiplication, division, and algebraic thinking), Multi-Digit Operations and Measurement (multiplication, division, perimeter, and area), Fractions, Decimals, and Measurement (addition, subtraction, and multiplication), and Geometry and Measurement (figures, classification, and symmetry). Students will grow their thinking by utilizing the eight mathematical practices of perseverance, modeling, discussing math, using tools, looking for patterns, practicing precision, reasoning, and structure as well as a growth mindset!

Social Studies: In Social Studies the book we will be using for the year is called U.S. History Making a New Nation. Fourth Grade History Standards emphasize regions and culture of Americas (pre-contact Americas to European Settlements up to 1763). There are four main strands we will be exploring in 4th grade Social Studies. These are, Civics, Economics, Geography, and History.

Science: In Science we will not be using a Science book this year. The majority of our learning will be thorough hands-on experiments and the recording of data. We will be using the *FOSS* kits supplied by the district as well as a Science Interactive Student Notebook (ISN). The four kits we will be using are, Landforms, Water, Magnets/ Electricity, and Environments. As well as the *FOSS* kits, we will be learning about the Scientific Method, characteristics of organisms, and adaptations in plants and animals, weather and lastly we will identify individuals who have contributed to scientific knowledge.

Fourth Grade Curriculum:

- **Math includes:** Place Value, Multiplication and Division, Fractions, Decimals, Metric Measurement, Geometry
- **Science includes:** Earth's Processes and Systems, Change in the Earth and Sky, Organisms and Environments, Energy and Magnetism
- **Social Studies includes:** Maya, Aztec and Inca civilizations, Age of Exploration, Colonial America, Geography
- **ELA includes:** Reading: Decoding, Vocabulary, Fluency, Language & Background Knowledge Development, Reading Comprehension
- **Writing:** Narrative, Informative/Expository, Opinion/Argumentative, Research Reports, Letter writing, Poetry, Grammar

Behavioral Expectations: Our classroom rule is:

"No one has the right to interfere with the safety, well-being, or learning of others."

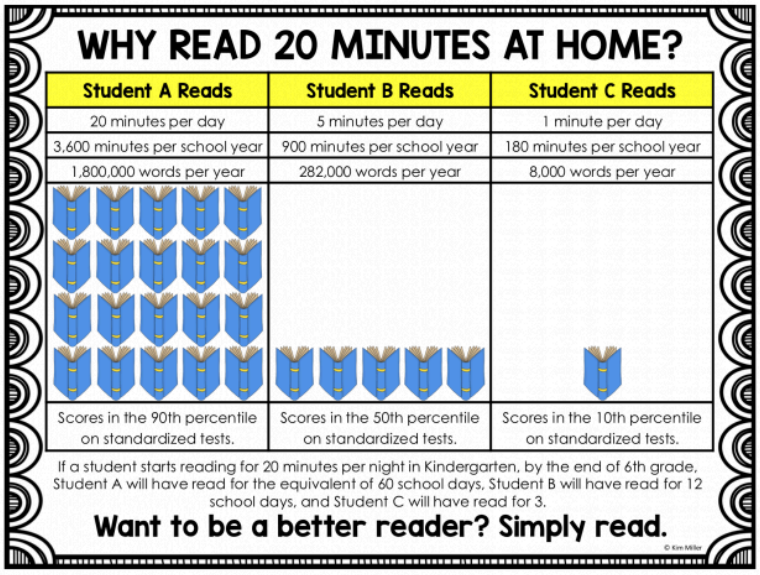
It is important to me to provide praise and positive reinforcement to keep a positive, caring culture in the classroom, by promoting conversations with guidance. I strive to create a classroom community of learners where character counts! We will be using a colored "clip chart" to monitor students behavior and classroom choices. Your child will have a clip on our class chart that he/she will physically move up or down depending on his/her choices throughout the day. If a student needs to clip down once the behavior is fixed they will have the opportunity to clip back up.

Communication

- **School-wide:** Arrowhead Website https://www.dvusd.org/Domain/9
- Sunday phone call & email from Ms. Dettorre @ 4:00pm
- Text communication through Blackboard
- Email: heather.roberts@dvusd.org
- Voice Mail: 623-376-4158

Attendance: When a student is absent, please call the 24 Hour AH Attendance line: 623-376-4190. Work that is missing will be saved for the student upon his/her return. If a student will be absent for more than a couple of days, please email me and I can put work together to be picked up in the office.

At Home Practice The 4th Grade homework will not be assigned regularly. UNLESS YOUR STUDENT DID **NOT** COMPLETE A CLASS ASSIGNMENT THEN WE ASK THAT IT IS COMPLETED AT HOME. Instead we ask that at home you focus on quality time together. This could be discussing the day, reading books, playing games, cooking meals, getting outdoors, and keeping a quality sleep routine. It is suggested that students read at least 30 minutes each evening. Students that need extra time for assignments such as iReady Math may take it home to complete as needed.



Grading: PowerSchools is an essential resource for parents and students. It is not only a tool for communication regarding grades, it is a resource for our students and parents to check progress, missing work, and what is being taught/learned regularly. Please ensure that you and your child have access and even sign up for the app and push notifications or weekly email updates as an option in PowerSchools.

PowerSchools parents online access: https://ps.dvusd.org/public/ Parents need a code to access grades for each child. Once added to your parent profile you do not need the code again. You can get codes from the office. Students can access grades using school login information. In 4th grade we suggest students login with you to check grades each week.

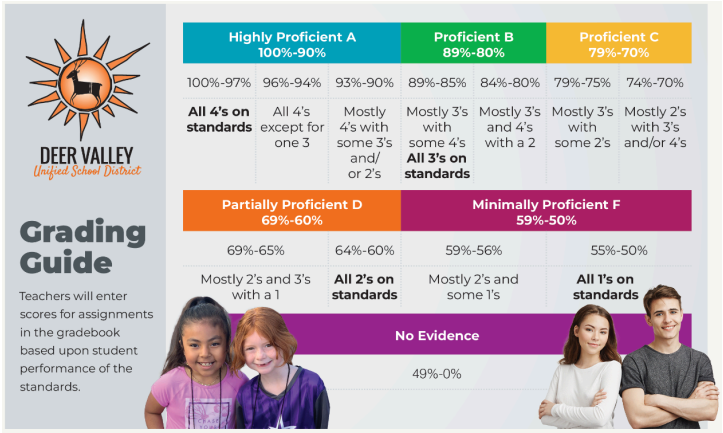
DVUSD 3rd-8th GRADE Students in 3rd through 12th grades will receive marks for their **proficiency** towards the grade level standards using the following scale. These marks are for information and do not calculate the student's overall course grade.

- **4 = Highly Proficient**
- **3 = Proficient**
- **2 = Partially Proficient**
- **1 = Minimally Proficient**

Students in 3rd through 12th grades will receive marks for their **overall performance** in each course of study using the following letter grade scale. Overall course grades for students in grades 3-12 will be calculated from the average of the student's assignment scores* (assessments, coursework).

- **A = 90-100%**
- **B = 80-89%**
- **C = 70-79%**
- **D = 60-69%**
- **F = 0-59%**

Grades of "D" and above are passing marks. A course grade of "F" indicates that the student has failed the course.. *For graded work in the Assessment Category, teachers will enter the proficiency marks for each standard measured and use the following guide to assign a score to the assignment. Parents will see the percentage score for each grade book entry with the letter grade mark on the front page of the PowerSchool parent portal.



For additional information, the parent may click the blue "show standards" icon to view the proficiency marks for the learning standards associated with the assessment or coursework. For extenuating circumstances, teachers' discretion will be applied.



WEIGHTS All 1st-12th grade teacher gradebooks will utilize the following weights for each category in the gradebook.

- ASSESSMENT CATEGORY 80%
- COURSEWORK CATEGORY 20%
- PRACTICE CATEGORY 0%

PROCEDURES FOR RE-ASSESSMENTS AND LATE WORK Every student learns at their own pace, and our goal is to provide the support and opportunities students need to be successful. Students who need additional help will receive targeted support during our Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS) WIN time in class.

Late & Missing Work:
To ensure grades accurately reflect a student's learning and academic progress, late and missing assignments may be submitted for full credit as long as they are completed and turned in before the end of the grading period.

Students are responsible for completing missing or late assignments while continuing to keep up with current classroom work. This helps students develop responsibility, organization, and time-management skills while ensuring they have the opportunity to demonstrate their learning.

Our goal is not to penalize students for missing work, but to help them complete their learning, build positive habits, and experience success.

Reassessments: Learning is a journey, and every student learns at their own pace. Some students may master a skill quickly, while others may benefit from additional time, practice, feedback, or a different approach. Our goal is to give students meaningful opportunities to learn, grow, and demonstrate their understanding.

- **Additional Learning Time:** Students may be given additional time and support to strengthen their understanding and demonstrate their learning. All reassessment opportunities must take place within the established grading period.

- **Flexible Reassessment:** When appropriate, assessments or assignments may be provided in an alternate format to give students another opportunity to demonstrate what they know and can do.
- **Showing Growth:** Before completing a reassessment, students will be expected to show evidence that they have reviewed the material, practiced the skill, and applied the feedback provided by their teacher.

My focus is on growth, learning, and progress. A reassessment is an opportunity for students to reflect on their learning, make improvements, and show what they have learned.

Birthdays Celebrating a birthday at school just got easier and more convenient! Parents now have the option to order a Birthday Party Bucket through the cafeteria to help make your child's special day extra fun! 🥳 Each Birthday Party Bucket includes student-friendly, healthier snacks that meet ***Arizona's Healthy Schools Act and Smart Snacks guidelines***. The bucket will be delivered directly to our classroom at a designated time, making birthday celebrations simple and stress-free for families and teachers!

It's a wonderful way to celebrate your child while keeping our classroom celebrations easy, fun, and school-approved! 💙

For questions or availability, please contact our school kitchen manager at kimberly.czosnyka@dvusd.org **or Click here to view, download, and fill out the birthday party bucket form.**
https://www.dvusd.org/fs/resource-manager/view/60d54ad2-a41b-437c-b4e2-0dd1942ea124

Let's celebrate our 4th graders and their special days! 🎈🎉

Bathroom Expectations *I want students to feel comfortable and supported while also making the most of our learning time. Whenever possible, students are encouraged to use the restroom* ***before school, during recess, lunch, or specials.***

- *If a student needs to use the restroom during class, they should* ***quietly ask for permission.*** *To help maintain a safe and productive learning environment, only* ***two students of the same gender may leave the classroom at a time.***

- *Students are encouraged to choose appropriate times, such as **independent work or work time**, when possible, rather than during direct instruction. This helps students stay engaged and ensures they don't miss important learning.*
- *We are also working on building independence and responsibility. If restroom trips become frequent or unnecessary, I may check in with the student to help them develop a plan that works best for them.*

Bathroom Emergencies *Of course, **emergencies are always different!** If a student has an urgent need to use the restroom, they should let me know right away. **They never need to wait in an emergency.***

Thank you for helping us encourage responsibility, independence, and respect for learning time! 💙