

# Independence Christian School

## Guide to Fourth Grade

2016-2017

Mrs. Morey

# Welcome to Fourth Grade

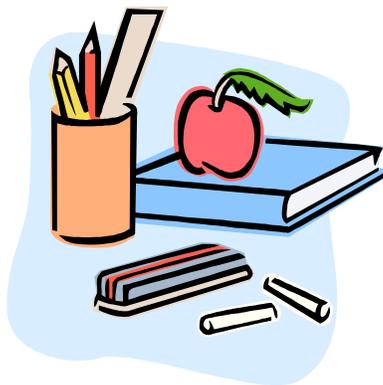
The following pages of this booklet are designed to help prepare you and your child for the fourth grade. Please read this handbook and the School Handbook carefully so you know what to expect.

I hope to have good, open communication with you this year. Remember, I desire what is best for your child like you do. So please contact me as soon as possible with any questions or concerns you may have regarding behavior, classroom procedures or academics, etc. Let's work together to make this a wonderful year in 4<sup>th</sup> grade!

I look forward to your child's exciting, educational and fun-filled fourth grade school year!

Yours in the Lord,

Mrs. Morey



## History/Geography



We cover U.S. History into the present and the State History of California.

## Science



A variety of topics include: scientific method, plants, water cycle, astronomy, insects, and the human body. These are all taught from a perspective that our God the creator is an awesome God.

## Language



Creative writing, sentences, paragraphs, elements of writing, eight parts of speech and diagramming

## Spelling & Penmanship



These subjects are taught daily.

## Math



Two-digit division, three-digit multiplication, measures-metric and English, fractions, geometry and an introduction to algebra

## Reading



Comprehension and discussion are stressed throughout the day. Reading is done silently, orally in pairs, small groups, and whole class. Students are encouraged to read on their own, and they will have a free reading book in their desks at all times. Book reports are assigned every 3-4 weeks.

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## Bible



Our curriculum covers our daily walk with the Lord and how to dig deeper into his word. It teaches the importance of making godly choices in our daily lives.

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## Art/Music



For art, we use a selection of media, such as; oil pastels, watercolors, and crayons. Music is also taught weekly, the second half of the year.

## Physical Education



Participation and attitude are stressed. We enjoy a variety of activities.

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## Organizational & Study Skills



We will organize our binders in class together. Binders are organized by subject. Students will be directed as to what goes in which pocket. Notes home will always be in the “Notes Home” section. Please ask your child each night to see this section. “Homework” is right next to it. Hopefully this will teach them skills to use throughout their lives.

## Homework



### Student’s job:

Do the homework and turn in completed homework on time.

Parent’s job: Look to see that all homework has been done neatly and completely before signing the homework. If you don’t feel the work is acceptable, please jot a note on the homework sheet instead of signing it. That’s it!!

It is not necessary for parents to check answers. Homework is structured to reinforce what the students are learning in class. Generally it will take about 45 minutes for the average student on Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday, plus book reports and special assignments. Any homework should be done on each student’s skill level and is therefore to be done by that student only. If there is any difficulty, I would like to be informed. I can give them help or modify assignments as needed.

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## Graded



Graded work will be sent home every Monday (or more often if deemed necessary). Any test papers with a grade lower than 70% will need to be signed and returned the following school day. Some papers will be kept for display in the classroom and sent home later.

## Make-Up Work

If the office has been informed of an absence by 9:00 am (the day of the absence) make-up work will be ready for pick up in the daycare room by 3:15 pm., if requested. Make-up days allowed for excused absences are equal to the days missed. At the teacher's discretion, not all class work needs to be made up from an extensive absence, nor will it adversely affect the grade. See school handbook for clarification of an unexcused absence.

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## Supply List



\$100.00 Classroom Fee

NIV Bible (Not NlrV version)

Zippered or Enclosed 3 ringed Binder

\*8 Pocket folders – DO NOT LABEL IN ADVANCE!

#2 pencils and erasers

12" English/Metric ruler

Notebook paper – College ruled

Black or blue ball point pen & Red ball point pen  
Crayons & Colored pencils  
Watercolor based markers (NOT permanent markers)  
2-3 Highlighters of different colors  
Scissors (Adult)  
Large Glue Stick  
\*Pocket Folders (NOT Pee Chee folders) must have 3 hole punches. Plastic folders are not advised.

## Parties



Our class will have a variety of parties during this school year. Some will be earned by students, and some will go along with holidays or what we are studying in class. If you want to do something to celebrate your child's birthday at school, please check with me in advance. We can then set aside a few minutes during recess, lunch time, or at the end of the day. If you wish to distribute birthday party invitations, please do so at the end of the school day, and EVERY student in class must be invited, or all boys or all girls.

## Outside Reading



Free reading, chosen by the student, should be done every day, except Sunday, for at least 10 minutes. This will help build strong readers and help them learn to enjoy reading as they get into good books. Book reports will be assigned

regularly – at least every four weeks. In general, books should be any kind of fiction or certain non-fiction, 120 pages, and pre-approved by the teacher. Due date will be noted on class calendar. Instructions will be given at the appropriate time as to details of writing the report. It is also important for the parents to approve the free reading books.

## **Grading & Returning Work**

All work will be checked for neatness, completeness, or other criteria, but not all work is graded. Not all homework will be returned, as some will be kept in my files to monitor progress. Work will be sent home every week for you to sign and return.

## **Field Trips**



We plan to go on trips to learn about fourth grade subjects. If possible, our whole class will fly to Sacramento for a one day extravaganza. Also, we try to explore Mission San Juan Capistrano.

# Calendar



Check Gradelink and the 4<sup>th</sup> grade I.C.S. page online.

## Class Rules

1. Follow directions the FIRST time.
  2. Show respect in your words and actions.
  3. Complete all assignments on time and be prepared\*
  4. Raise your hand to speak and wait to be called.
  5. Keep hands, feet and objects to yourself.
- \* If students do not bring in needed materials on time, they should plan on doing extra work at recess.

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### Positive Consequences (whole class & individual)

Rewards: lots of encouragement from teacher, positive reward spending “gold nuggets” earned by following the class and school rules. Popcorn parties, movies, stickers, prizes, special activities, etc.

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### Negative Consequences (for one day at a time)

- 1<sup>st</sup> time any rule is broken-Warning/Lose “gold nuggets” for the day
- 2<sup>nd</sup> time – 10 minute time out (loss of gold nuggets)
- 3<sup>rd</sup> time - 20 minute time out (loss of gold nuggets)
- 4<sup>th</sup> time – 30 minute time out & note sent home
- 5<sup>th</sup> time – Referral to the Principal
- \*Severe infractions include (but are not limited to): Fighting, disobedience, vulgar language, etc.
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# Excused and Unexcused Absence and Tardy Procedures

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All children who have been absent, must return to school with a note (explaining their absence) in order to return to class. A written request is required for all pre-planned absences and must be approved by Mr. Cushing at least one-week in advance.

## Unexcused absences:

Family vacation

Trips to Disneyland

Family visiting from out of town-etc.

Remember, ALL requests must be in writing with at least one-week advance notice. NO EXCEPTIONS.

## Excused absences:

Illness

Death in the family

Medical or Dental emergency

All students arriving at school after 8:30 am are considered late and must go to the office for an admittance slip. **An adult must accompany late students to the office.**

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I am aware of the Absence & Tardy procedures.

Parent name \_\_\_\_\_

Student name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Return to school by September 30, 2016.