

# Ms. Smith's Class

## 2017-18

# HELLO



Dear Parents and Students,

I am so excited that we get to work together this year. Are you excited too? We will all learn many new things from each other and have a fabulous time doing it!

This year we will continue to build on what you have already learned at home and also at school. Parents – you are the most important factor in how much your child will grow this year and we are all here to support one another.

There will be plenty of communication between us this year so please don't hesitate to contact me (I must admit that email & written notes are the easiest & quickest way to catch me).

We will all be together very soon. Oh, and before I forget, please come prepared on the very first day with three things: 1. A friendly smile. 2. A yearning for learning. 3. A willingness to try new things.

See you soon!  
Ms. Smith

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Welcome to 4th grade! This letter is intended to inform you of the basics. Please come to open house on September 6th for more information and to have any questions answered. I look forward to meeting you!

### **Planners**

- ✓ Each student will have a pocket folder with their planner and spots for work. This folder will go between home and school each day.
- ✓ The planner will contain: Notes between parents and teacher, Important Events, Homework Assignments, Questions of the Day and any other information your child would like to include.
- ✓ Please check and sign your child's planner each day. It is our biggest communication link!
- ✓ Please ask your child the Questions of the Day each day. This will give you an idea of what they learned that day and an opportunity for them to tell you about it.

### **Homework**

- ✓ Each student is expected to read for a minimum of 20 minutes every night. After reading, they will write a response to reading each night.
- ✓ Please help your child by setting aside a specific time to read each night and a place to read without interruptions.
- ✓ The Family Math Letter will come home before each new math unit. Please hang onto it as it can be helpful.
- ✓ Math homework will be stapled in packets of 5-6 assignments at a time. Students will be given time in class to complete that day's math homework assignment - please check each night to make sure it has been completed. This packet should stay in their folder and come back to school EVERY day.

### **Attendance**

- ✓ Much of our learning takes place in class through lessons, discussion and classwork. When absent, students miss out on more than you might think. Please do all you can to get your child to school!

### **Notes**

- ✓ If you have something that you need me to know, email is the best way to make sure I get the information. You can also send in a note, but your child has to make sure I see it. Phone calls, even if you leave a message, are very difficult to get to during the school day.

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### Snacks

- ✓ If your child gets hungry during the day, they are welcome to bring a **fruit** or a **vegetable** that is easy to eat while working.
- ✓ Water bottles are great to have during the day!
- ✓ The only exception to the fruit / vegetable rule is for celebrating birthdays. If your child wants to bring in something for their birthday, please feel free!

### Electronics

- ✓ Electronics can be very useful learning tools and will be used for learning activities. If a student is using his/her device for something other than to help them learn, I will ask them to not bring it back.
- ✓ Students may not contact **anyone** with their device during the school day (text, call, email, post, etc.). If you need to get a message to your child during the day, please contact the office or send me an email.
- ✓ Students may not take devices to recess or lunch.
- ✓ Your child is responsible for their device while at school. If it is too valuable to lose or get broken, *please don't bring it.*

### Parents in the Classroom

- ✓ Please consider participating in Symons PTO. The approximate time commitment is only one hour per month. This is an extremely valuable part of our school community.
- ✓ Parents are a valuable part of our class. Please let me know ahead of time if you want to come in and help. Remember – help comes in many different forms and all help is welcome.
- ✓ Make sure everyone who may come in or on any field trip has a current background check. This is a State of Michigan law, and must now be done every year.

### Contact Me

smithj@milanareaschools.org

Website

<http://smithjen.wix.com/4th-grade>



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### Supplies

Our classroom will be busy! In order for students to easily reach needed supplies wherever they are working, community supplies will be available throughout the room. Only a few personal supplies will be needed.

#### Needed Community Supplies:

- Pencils
- Dry Erase Markers
- Post-it Notes
- Markers
- Crayons
- Tissue
- Paper Towel
- 'Clorox' Wipes
- 'Ziploc' Bags
- 'Scotch' Tape

#### Necessary Personal Supplies:

- T-shirt with name written on back and front for gym (does not need to be new)
- Ear buds
- One cereal box
- One Spiral Notebook for nightly reading response