

## SCHOOL SUCCESS:

Your parents may have already picked up your school supplies, but here is a list again so you know exactly what you need to get through fourth grade. When you run out of something like notebook paper, pick up a label from the drawer to inform your parents right away. Also, keep your pencils in a safe place like a pouch and do not lend them out to everyone.

**YOU NEED:** a binder thicker than 1 inch for math (the school list at Wal-Mart said three inches, but a 2-inch binder is fine), highlighters, Fiskars scissors (write your name on them), Koss headphones (write your name on them), a thesaurus, glue (stick or bottle), markers/colored pencils/crayons (your choice!), pencils, a box or pouch to hold your supplies, lined paper (wide-ruled), a flash drive (any size; your name will go on it with a label), at least 5 pronged folders, a poly folder with prongs for journalism, a box of tissues, and quart or gallon-sized plastic bags, and composition books. **OPTIONAL:** small, handheld pencil sharpener

## DELICIOUS!

Every morning during reading centers is working snack. You should have your own snack. Here is an acceptable, **HEALTHY SNACK LIST:**

- Fruits: apple, orange, strawberries, blueberries, banana, kiwi slices, watermelon, fruit salad in a container, etc.
- Vegetables: celery, carrot sticks or slices, etc.
- A package or bag of plain or flavored crackers, pretzels, fruit crisps, or graham crackers
- String cheese
- Granola bars
- Different kinds of yogurt or pudding
- Applesauce

**NOT A HEALTHY CHOICE:** chips, cookies, or candy. Sunflower seeds are not recommended, either, because they can get embedded in the rug and cause a mess. Also in case there is anyone allergic to nuts, do not bring them to school until we know all classmates can have or even be around them.



## KEEP YOURSELF HYDRATED!

Every day starting tomorrow, try to bring a container with water to school that you can keep at your desk. You can have any kind of container. Two kinds are shown to the left. Here are some facts about water:

-You are 2/3rds water.

-Every cell in your body needs water.

-Even a two-percent drop in body water can keep you from remembering something important, using your very best math skills, and focusing on your computer screen.

Even more important, it's better to have your own container than have to get up every time you want a drink of water!

# Procedures

## **Entering the classroom in the morning, getting to work:**

1. **Unstack your chair** and head to your desk. **Read the board quickly.**
2. Take out your folder, which holds your **homework**. Bring your homework over to the basket to the right of the sink. Numbers 1 and 2 combined should take under 5 minutes.
3. If you need to get your Math and Science Solve-It binder, get it out of your cubby. Otherwise, get started on what you need to do at your desk. Do this silently.
4. When you are done, reference your list of what you can do when you are done.

## **Requesting to use the restroom or get a drink from the water fountain:**

**Bathroom request:** Cross your fingers. You do not need to say anything; I will see you. You also do not need to be jumping around during this request.

**Water request:** Part your fingers like a V. However, you should have a water bottle at your desk already, which means you do not need to go to the fountain.

- Please try not to request the bathroom during instruction unless it is an honest emergency.
- Only one person may be over at the water fountain at a time.
- During centers, you can head to the restroom immediately.

## **Raising your hand to contribute in class:**

Raise your hand, and you will be heard. You will not be “heard” by just calling out. I will always call on the student who is raising his or her hand first. Think of five people trying to call out at the same time. It doesn’t “work”.

**There are exceptions during certain times:** whole-class game shows (if that is part of the rules) and discussion podcasts.

## **Turning in your classwork/homework:**

There are two baskets to the right of the sink where you turn in your classwork and homework. Please place your assignment in the correct basket.

### **Heading a paper:**

#### **Top right hand corner:**

- **FIRST AND LAST NAME**
- **NUMBER**  
**DATE**
- **PAGE NUMBER, if applicable**

**Writing just your first name on a paper is NOT acceptable.**

### **Working on assignments at your desk:**

**Individually:** Level 0. Silently. No exceptions.

**With a partner:** Level 1. You sometimes have partner assignments in all subjects. You sometimes move around for partner assignments as well, but as soon as you violate the noise level, it does not take me long to send you back to your seat to work individually.

### **Lining up: As quickly as possible: My classes have made lines in four seconds.**

- **Straight**
- **Silent (which is different than quiet)**
- **Facing forward**
- **Hands cupped in elbows the entire time**

If your line is like this, you get to the next place quite quickly- getting to recess/P.E. may take about five minutes.

### **Walking through the school:**

Absolutely silent in hallways and the breezeway by Mrs. LaPlaca's room/the cafeteria. Voices carry in that breezeway. You must also be silent lining up from specials, cafeteria, or library. If I must wait, I will be earning scoreboard points for every 10 seconds I must wait.

Quiet going up the sidewalk to P.E. and recess.

**1. Straight, 2. Silent, 3. Facing forward, and 4. Hands cupped in elbows.**

### **Entering a specials classroom:**

Enter silently. Silent is different from quiet. Silent means **NOT A WORD AT ALL**. Stand or sit where you are told. If Mrs. Kiley says "Line up in a straight line" to pick captains, you do it immediately and silently. If you enter Mrs. LaPlaca's classroom and she tells you to walk through the center section to your seat, you do it silently. At P.E., you go to your spots silently and wait for exercise to begin/start exercise. The same goes for heading to your tables in Mrs. Platt's, Ms. Rogers', and Mr. Stevenson's classrooms: walk in silently, ready for them to tell you the first word. They expect MAJOR respect out of fourth- and fifth-graders because you lead the school.

### **Entering the cafeteria:**

Enter quietly. Of course, it is a cafeteria, and you do not have to be silent. You are basically at Level 1- very soft talk. You walk straight ahead, in a straight line, and keep your hands/feet to yourself. I have witnessed classes where students have shouted at and kicked one another in line, and it was quite embarrassing for them. The teacher assistants know which classes to watch and which to trust.

Mr. Kerns is your lunch table assistant. He monitors what goes on at three different tables. He lets me know if anyone has been off-task. You need to remain on-task in there because this is one of the most major places where you build a reputation. A teacher does not want to hear that her class is the loudest, most disrespectful class in the cafeteria. Remember, marbles can be taken as well.

### **Consequences for taking out items that do not belong in school:**

The first time, I will tell you to put it away and that I do not want to see it again. You will have a note in your agenda, however.

The second time I confiscate the item, it is held in a place until June 2011.

Do not ever bring items to lunch that can be confiscated. Toys should not be in your pockets or in the lunchroom, specials, library, recess, etc. Additionally, do not trade items with classmates because items can be lost forever with dishonesty.

As for Silly Bandz, a few may be worn within reason, but they never come off. As soon as they are off, they are in my possession.

### **Coming to attention:**

There are a few ways in which I will get your attention this year:

- "Give Me Five"
- "If you hear me, clap once. If you hear me, clap twice."
- Teacher: "Class!" Students: "Yes!"
- At times, I dim the lights and you know to stop what you are doing. I am likely giving you five then. also.

### **When you need supplies replenished:**

Please get one of the "In Need of Supply Renewal" labels from the supply drawer next to your mailboxes. Check off what you need on the label and place it in your agenda.

**It is YOUR responsibility.** If you do not have a supply and the label is not in your agenda, then you did not make a responsible choice. Also if you cannot make it to the store to get a supply, please come to me quietly and I may have it available.

### **Levels of volume in our classroom:**

**Level 0:** Silence. Used during individual classwork, including morning work, and tests.

**Level 1:** Very soft talk, almost whispering. Used during centers because 4-6 things may be going on at the same time and everyone needs to concentrate. .

**Level 2:** Your normal voice (which we demonstrated). Used during experiments, mainly.

**Calming instrumental and vocal music is played in class from time to time, which makes it a better environment to concentrate.**

### **What is guff?**

**Guff** is a disrespectful action towards another student or adult: arguing, rolling your eyes, groaning, saying words out of line, etc.

It is your job, if you see guff being done, to tell the other student to "Please stop." As I will make you aware of what guff looks and sounds like, there will be very few times where someone will demonstrate guff.

We have a class scoreboard called the **Teacher/Student Scoreboard** that leads to privileges. Of course, you want to **WIN!**

- **10**- Five minutes of socializing or a contest where you can win a prize
- **15**- A neat lesson using our Eno board
- **25**- Class game shows or 10 minutes of extra recess

Of course when you as a class "spends" points, you must start all over again.

### **Coming Soon: Center procedures**

## **Relating to Behavior:**

### **What is not tolerated in fourth grade:**

Disrespect- arguing or yelling	Cheating
Lying about a situation to an adult	Saying inappropriate words
Stealing from classmates/adults	Horseplay (Physical contact)
Fighting with other students/adults	Vandalism

**Anything extremely serious not mentioned here. You understand the deal because you are in fourth grade now.**

### **Consequences:**

**First warning:** If you are doing something minor like talking in class, you receive a non-verbal glance from me and know to stop what is being done. Otherwise, for either not stopping or for any other offense above, you receive a discipline warning notice. You also lose your respect money for the day.

**Second warning:** Discipline warning notice, loss of the next recess period, and parent is called

**Third warning:** Discipline warning notice, loss of the next recess period, parent is called, and you are sent to guidance

**Fourth warning:** Formal discipline/ISS

**NOTE:** There are absolutely no excuses for not working, even if you do not like the assignment. Your best effort is always expected.

### **A major consequence:**

We go on field trips with Mrs. Gries' fifth grade class over the course of the school year. Last year, we went to the University of Florida as well as the Florida Museum of Natural History in Gainesville and the Renaissance Fair in Tampa. We **will** be taking even more trips together this year.

If you receive a discipline warning notice, which begins with the first offense, it is up to your parent whether you are going on the trip or not.

If you receive a formal discipline, you will not be able to attend the next scheduled trip. There are absolutely no exceptions. Remember, three discipline warning notices (even if you have been warned for "goofing off" or refused to work three times in class and **still** have not stopped) lead to a formal discipline for the fourth time. Please remember that there are major offenses that lead to an immediate write-up as well, such as vandalism or putting your hands on another person.

## Rewards in JasztaIville

Earning points on the **Teacher/Student Scoreboard** leads to privileges. Of course, you want to **WIN!**

- **10-** Five minutes of socializing or a contest where you can win a prize
- **15-** A neat lesson using our Eno board
- **25-** Class game shows or 10 minutes of extra recess

**The class can earn points (sometimes a few at a time) by:** 1. Getting a compliment from the lunchroom, specials, or the librarian, 2. Everyone being on-task during centers (since we will have a lot of centers, that is major), 3. Everyone being on-task during an experiment (major for Ms. JasztaI), 4. Everyone working at the volume level they are asked to work at, and 5. The class saying "Please stop" if anything happens.

If I am REALLY impressed, the class can earn points and marbles at the same time.

The class can also earn **marbles**. Of course, you want to **GET TO 100!** You can earn over 200 marbles for the year. Marbles are different from points because you don't lose the amount when you get a class reward.

- **50/150-** The whole class earns no homework for the evening.
- **100/200-** The class decides on a celebration. For the past two years, the class voted on having an ice cream party, and we even voted on the toppings. Last year, we had a thirty-minute silent reading celebration along with the ice cream party. The year before, we had some extra recess. Some years, we have had pizza parties as well.

- **Feed and Read** is an exciting monthly event that takes place on Tuesday evenings from 4:00-6:30 p.m. Our class has books laid out that can be read in one sitting to earn Reading Counts points. Of course, you want to progress up the "Catch the Reading Counts Wave!" board and get more than 100 for the year. Pizza is served as well, and families always bring snacks. Sometimes there are contests as well.
- **Bucket Fillers:** Bucket Fillers is new in JasztaIville this year. When someone does a kind deed, they need to be commended. What if someone helps you pick up the colored pencils you spilled on the ground? What if someone helps you stack your chair at the end of the day while your hands are full? What if you were sitting alone at lunch, feeling kind of down, and someone sat with you to cheer you up? Fill his or her bucket, because (s)he filled yours. Then write an explanation of why you filled that person's bucket and put it in the Bucket Fillers envelope. On random days, I will draw a name from the envelope and the person can earn a small reward.
- **100% Homework Club:** Turn in your homework daily, and you will be in the 100% Homework Club.
- **Star Student Classwork Check-Off List:** At the end of every week, in order to get to enjoy your full recess, turn in all your work on time. You will be a star student for the week.
- **A-Inators** is a ticket system where you earn a top grade or make a superior contribution in class to earn a ticket for a quarterly drawing. Five students are chosen for a special drawing each quarter.
- We also have **Student of the Week** and **Student of the Month**, which is pretty self-explanatory.

**JASZTALVILLE TECHNOLOGY TRAININGS:** *Only two students from each advanced class can attend a training, and then they train other students. Each training is 20-30 minutes.*

- *How to use the Flip video camera and view videos after using it: In this training, you will make a short video and learn how to use the Flip software.*
- *How to locate good podcasts and download podcasts from iTunes onto iPods: JasztaIville's fourth grade students only\**
- *How to record and edit a podcast using Audacity software*
- *How to make a "Wordle" word web*
- *How to use Adobe Premiere Elements video editing software: For advanced techies who think they can handle the information overload!*
- *The basics of having a weblog*
- *Advanced PowerPoint techniques (incorporates Digital Storytelling)*
- *How to use Green Screen technology*