**Mrs. Parkinson Classroom Disclosure 2021-2022**

Mary Parkinson- Room 14

Email: mparkinson@wasatchpeak.org

Class Website: https://mrsparkinsongrade4.weebly.com/

Welcome to Mrs. Parkinson’s 4th grade class! I am so very excited to meet all your children and to get to know you as well. This year will be full of new experiences as well as a great deal of learning and curiosity. I hope to create a classroom where students feel safe, motivated, and challenged. I believe in a growth mindset, where students know and understand that failing is a crucial part of success. And there will be moments when they will be challenged and that they may need to find new strategies and push themselves. I know that 4th grade is a great year filled with lots of new things in all subjects and I expect students to come to class excited and open to learning new things. I also expect students to come to class prepared to do their best. This means they have the supplies they need, are doing their homework and have support at home.

**Communication:**

I believe that in order for a student to be successful, they have to have a supportive team behind them with the teacher and their families. I believe that effective communication can help a student to have a more successful year. If at any time you have any questions or concerns, please email me at mparkinson@wasatchpeak.org. If it is a more persistent or serious matter, we can set up a time to talk on the phone, meet in person, or over Zoom.

My website can be found through the Wasatch Peak Academy faculty page, or at mrsparkinsongrade4.weebly.com. The website will have announcements, important dates and student assignments. I update Aspire and my website every Friday by 4pm, and throughout the week as I am able.

**Literacy Curriculum:**

We will be using the Grade 5 Wonders Curriculum with a focus on reading comprehension, grammar, fluency, writing strategies, spelling and vocabulary. The Wonders program is divided into six units, each being six weeks. These units allow students to expand their comprehension skills and review material throughout the year.

Unit 1: Where Can An Idea Begin?

Unit 2: What Does It Take to Put a Plan Into Action?

Unit 3: What Kinds of Experiences Can Lead to New Discoveries?

Unit 4: How Do We Decide What’s Important?

Unit 5: In What Ways Can Things Change?

Unit 6: How Are We All Connected?

**Literacy Homework:**

In order to best meet students individual needs they will not have the same homework assignments as all of their peers after the first few weeks of school. Students will be given spelling groups using “Words Their Way” that best meets what they need to work on. Spelling tests will be given weekly, and students should try to spend about 5 minutes studying their words each night to supplement the time spent in class.

Students will also be placed into Novel Study groups that will help them to discuss Literature and reading skills with others in our class. Each week students will be required to read a section, both in class during our DYAD (partner reading) time and at home. Then answer questions to prepare them for a group discussion we will have once a week for their Novel. The entire packet will be due at the end of the novel and any missed weeks or missed points can be made up at that point.

Information and novel study calendars can be found on my website once we begin our Novel Study groups.

It is also recommended that students read 20 minutes a night and at least 5 minutes of that time should be spent reading out loud.

**Literacy Grading:**

Weekly Journal 20%

Homework 10%

Participation 10%

Tests/ Quizzes 35%

Class Notes: 25%

Literacy will follow the traditional grading scale and students will receive a letter grade.

**Math Curriculum:**

We will be using the Grade 4 *Ready Math Curriculum.* Students will also be using the online Ready Math component: i-Ready to supplement their classroom learning, as well as math fact memorization. Students will be given comprehension checks throughout the Units and end-of-unit tests.

UNIT 1: Whole Numbers: Place Value, comparison, Addition and Subtraction

UNIT 2: Multiplication, Division and Algebraic Thinking

Unit 3: Multi-Digit Operations and Measurement: Multiplication, Division, Perimeter and Area

UNIT 4: Fractions, Decimals, and Measurement

Unit 5: Geometry and Measurement

To supplement materials studied during class students are also required to complete 50 minutes of i-Ready a week. This will be spread out throughout the week and will primarily be done in class. Students will also be working on math fact memorization.

**Math Homework:**

Homework will primarily be given from the Ready Math books and work should be turned in the following school day at the beginning of class. All late work will be due at the end of the term, but completion of homework on time is far more likely to help students prepare for in class discussions.

**Math Grading:**

Math Facts: 20%

i-Ready Lessons: 10%

Class Notes/ i-Ready Practice Pages 30%

Tests/Quizzes: 30%

Participation: 10%

Math will follow the traditional grading scale and students will be given a letter grade.

**Social Studies Curriculum:**

In 4th grade students focus on Utah History. We will be using the book “Utah, Our Home” and working through a student guide to help students learn material. The book is broken down into roughly 3 large units- geography, first Utahns, and Modern Utah- spread out over 11 chapters.

The majority of our Social studies focus will be during the second half of the year.

Chapter 1: The Land We Call Home

Chapter 2: Geography Affects Us

Chapter 3: We Affect Geography

Chapter 4: The First Utahns

Chapter 5: Explorers and Fur Traders

Chapter 6: Many People Move West

Chapter 7: From Territory to State

Chapter 8: Into A New Century

Chapter 9: Modern Utah

Chapter 10: Utah’s Economy

Chapter 11: Government for All Of Us

**Social Studies Homework:**

Homework will only be given if not completed during given class time.

**Grading:**

Tests/ Quizzes: 45%

Student Guide: 45%

Participation: 10%

**Science Curriculum:**

For science we will be focusing on 4 main units that require students to ask questions, develop and participate in investigations, and construct explanations and design solutions. Students will help students to utilize scientific thought and develop skills for themselves to be successful in the world that they will build. To guide understanding during these units we will use many resources including: Mystery Science, Generation Genius and Nearpod.

Unit 1: Organisms Functioning In Their Environment

Unit 2: Energy Transfer

Unit 3: Wave Patterns

Unit 4: Observe Patterns In The Sky

**Homework:**

Homework will only be given if not completed during given class time.

**Grading:**

Tests/ Quizzes: 45%

Journal: 45%

Participation: 10%

**Grading Scale:**

Students will receive a letter grade for each of the “core” subjects: math, literacy, social studies, science and Spanish. Please check Aspire so there are no end of the year surprises and of course to see if your student is missing any assignments. If you have any questions, please contact me.

The grading scale is as follows:

A+ 97-100% B+ 87-89% C+ 77-79% D+ 67-69%

A 94-96% B 84-86% C 74-76% D 64-66%

1. 90-93% B- 80-83% C- 70-73% D- 60-63%

**Dress Code:**

I follow the dress code outlined in the parent handbook and will send students to the office if they are not following the dress code. I do keep my classroom on the cooler side, so students are welcome to wear jackets or sweaters as long as they are plain navy, red, or white and do not distract from the class.

**Volunteering:**

Please consider donating from the Amazon Wishlist found on my website. Every $10 is 1 hour of volunteer time and is greatly appreciated!

A sign-up for door decorations can be found on my website, as well as needed in-class volunteering time. Thank you in advance for the support you bring to the classroom.

**Classroom Management:**

This year I will be using a method of classroom management known as the “dot system.” Students are given “dots” based on completing work, following classroom expectations, and staying focused. The dot system allows students to visually see their own success and limits comparison to other students. Students receive rewards for completing dot charts at the end of every other week.

I will also be using table points to help students with classroom expectations. These points will be rewarded at the end of each month.

WPA has also adopted school rules that are implemented in our classroom. Students should know to use nice words, have a calm body, follow directions, keep their hands to themselves, and to finish their work. These rules are crucial for students to be successful in my class and in our school. These rules can be found on my website and are posted in our classroom.

**Disclosure Agreement:**

The disclosure agreement can be signed on my class website on the front page. Please have this signed by August 31.