

Dear Students,

Welcome to fourth grade! I was extremely excited to get the chance to meet you on Step Up Day. I look forward to the upcoming year as well as the chance to get to know you as a learner.

We have many fun activities and events planned for next year. In social studies we have units on New Jersey, Government and Immigration. In our Immigration Simulation, you will have a chance to step into the shoes of an immigrant coming through Ellis Island in the early 1900's. We will have a chance to study many different things in science, such as Land and Water, Electricity and Animal Studies! Other fun topics include reading about Greek Mythology, writing wikis and one-scene plays, as well as participating in the Egglette Project! Fourth graders will also have the opportunity to play the recorder in music class! It will definitely be a fun and exciting year!

Attached, you will find your summer assignment and reading log. For your summer assignment, you will be responsible for making a photo collage on poster board. This assignment is heavily based on reading, but will also allow you to show where you traveled this summer. In addition to the summer assignment, I would also like you to keep a reading log of your summer reading. Remember; books, magazines, and newspapers can all be written down. This helps me know what you're interested in reading. Please bring these assignments with you on the first day of school in September.

Fourth grade is a very important year. It is the year that prepares you to be the leaders of Willard. My job is to prepare you for that responsibility. If you come to school ready to learn and with a positive attitude, then plan on having a great year!

Have a great summer and enjoy the time off. I look forward to hearing all about your vacations and time off with your friends and family!

Sincerely,
The Fourth Grade Team

Summer Assignment

Summer is a time for fun, traveling ... and reading! Over the next two months, I would like you to "document" what you did over the summer and share with your classmates in September. You will need to document what you did by taking pictures! The photos you take should be of the two categories listed below.

Traveling:

Let's face it, you're probably going to go somewhere exciting with your family or friends over the summer. I would like you to take photos of yourself at this place! It can be:

- A family vacation.
- A camp you attended.
- A performance, play, historic place or museum.
- National landmark or national park.
- A special place you like to go in the summer (beach, park, playground, etc.)

Interesting Places You Read:

Keeping up on summer reading is important, but who says it has to be at home on your couch? I would like you to take photos of you reading in interesting places. The location needs to be a safe one and shouldn't take away from your ability to read! This could be (but is not limited to):

- In a tree
- At a park
- In/by a pool
- On a swing
- On the beach
- In a tent
- Next to a historic landmark
- In a canoe

Once you have all of your photos, you'll need to put them on poster board and add a small caption to explain the picture. The caption should be able to explain what you are doing, reading and why you are there.

Commonly Asked Questions:

Q: How many pictures do I *need* to take?

A: 6-10

Q: Do I have to print out the pictures on my own and put them on poster board?

A: Yes.

Q: But I'm not going anywhere, what should I take a picture of?

A: I'm sure you're going somewhere interesting. If not, there are plenty of places in Bergen County that you can visit.

However, don't forget about interesting places you read!

Q: Can they be all pictures of me reading or all pictures of me traveling?

A: No, they should be a mixture of the two.

Q: Can other people take pictures of me reading or visiting places?

A: Yes. This is encouraged.

Q: Are selfies allowed?

A: One per collage, but you have to make a silly face.

Q: Should the books that I'm reading in my photos be on my reading log?

A: Yes!

Q: Should I bring in my completed collage on the first day of school?

A: Yes! We'll be sharing on the first day and this will help us with our first assignment as a class!

If you have any questions, your parents can email at -

dbrizzolara@ridgewood.k12.nj.us

whalter@ridgewood.k12.nj.us

rkisic@ridgewood.k12.nj.us

jong@ridgewood.k12.nj.us

Mrs. Brizzolara

Mr. Halter

Ms. Kisic

Mr. Ong

