

<u>INTRODUCTION</u>

Welcome to fourth grade! Hello, I am **Ms**. **Pulis**...

(not Ms. P)



I am looking forward to a fun-filled year of learning, exploring, & discovery! This is my 18th year teaching & my 14th year in 4th grade (honestly, my favorite!). I have two daughters who attend(ed) Fiddyment. We love it here & I hope you do as well!

4th grade is a very big transitional year. As your teacher, my goal is to prepare you to be successful in the upper-grades. I plan to teach you the skills necessary to become a high-level thinker & independent learner. I also look forward to meeting all of your parents. I believe it is important that we all work together as a team to make this year the best it can be!

CONTACT INFORMATION

Niccole Pulis

(916) 771-1880 ex: 42121

Email: npulis@rcsdk8.org

Class Website:

21polkadots.weebly.com



Please do not hesitate to call or email me with any questions/concerns you have. I check my email frequently during the day & reply as time permits.

FYI: I only check voicemails after school as I like to be present for my students.

CLASS RULE:

I run my classroom with respect and I use positive reinforcements to motivate my students.



I expect everyone to treat each other in the same respectful manner that they would want to be treated themselves.

Our only class rule is RESPECT

BEHAVIOR POLICY

The best learning environment is safe, engaging, empowering, and positive.

Great Tickets / Group Points / Class Letters

If all of my positive rewards are not successful, then consequences are as follows:

- 1. Student receives a verbal warning.
- 2. Student is moved to another location in the classroom.
- **3.** Student is invited to a conference during recess to discuss behavior and completes a "Respect Worksheet"
- **4.** Referral to the Principal & parents are contacted.

Please Note:

Parents will be contacted ONLY if the issue is something the student and I cannot solve together or if the behavior continually occurs.

SCHOOL SUPPLIES

Pocket Folders (red, yellow, blue)

Spiral Notebooks (3)

• Pencils (24+)

Pencil Sharpener

Pencil Box

Highlighters (3+ colors)

Dry Erase Markers (2 black)

• Dry Erase "Eraser"

Sharpie (black - fine tip)

Crayons, Markers, Color Pencils

• Ruler, Scissors, Erasers

Post-its (1 pad)

• Glue Sticks (5ish)

• Earbuds!



Core Literature

1st Trimester:

James and The Giant Peach

2nd Trimester:

Island of the Blue Dolphins

3rd Trimester:

By the Great Horn Spoon



Please consider donating to our

Extra Supplies!

Amazon Class Wish List is maintained weekly

<u>TECHNOLOGY</u>

BYOD is an option!

If you have a Chromebook or Laptop that you would like to use while at school, please be sure that it is fully charged and brought to school daily.



FYI: We will provide Chromebooks to any child who is in need of one.

30 BOOK CHALLENGE

As part of the Language Arts curriculum, your child will be participating in a 30 book challenge!

Students should plan to read about 10 chapter books a trimester. They will earn credit by submitting a slideshow with a page for each genre. Each slide will describe the book & must contain: book title, author, summary describing key events in order, picture(s) & rating.

Book Challenge

Genres



I want my students to LOVE to read! My goal for this program is to increase their foundational skills, practice reading strategies, and introduce them to genres they may not have read before.



PRESENTATIONS

As part of our 4th grade Common Core Curriculum for "Listening and Speaking" students will be orally presenting throughout the year.

Poetry Presentations: (weekly - beginning in September)

A list of poetry options will provided at the beginning of each month. Students will memorize and recite a poem.

Reader's Theater: (monthly)

At the end of each Language Arts unit, students will work in a group to act out a themed play in class!

Trimester Projects: (3-times a year)

Students will work on a Social Studies or Science themed project. They will present their project in front of the class. (ex: CA Regions, CA Natives, Missions, Wax Museum, etc.)

<u>GRADING</u>

Our grading criteria is based on student growth...

- (P) means "proficient"- Students can consistently demonstrate they are meeting the standards taught and assessed.
- (A) means "approaching"- Students can demonstrate some elements of the standards taught and assessed.
- (B) means "beginning"- Students can demonstrate few elements of the standards taught and assessed.

HOMEWORK POLICY

- Any work sent home will serve as reinforcement to lessons presented in class. It will <u>not</u> be required.
- Homework is a chance for students to practice what they learned. It should be completed independently (for the most part) and turned in when finished.
- 4th grade homework should typically take about 1 hour.

• Reading 20 minutes each night is HIGHLY encouraged!

Math homework assignments mirror our class lesson & are intended to be completed daily.

• <u>Spelling/Vocab</u> list will be given on <u>Mondays</u> & completed packets will be collected on <u>Fridays</u>.

GOOGLE Kids

We will be working on several computer based projects throughout the year. Students can access their Google Kids account from home...



To Access Google Kids Account from Home:

- Go to Google & click mail
- Log-in is your student number @rcsdkids.us
- Password is DOB 00/00/00

Example:

Login ID:

123456@rcsdkids.us

Password: 07/13/08

FYI: I will give the students their codes once we start using the computers.

OUR WEEK AT A GLANCE

Monday - Music @ 8:30am

Tuesday - PE @ 8:40am

Wednesday – Library @ 8:35am

Thursday - PE@8:40am

Friday - Buddy Class @ TBD

*Please remind your child to wear tennis shoes on PE days! ©



FUN FRIDAY

"Fun" Friday Electives:

Students who have completed all class work and projects will earn time for art projects, science experiments, math games, and other fun activities on Friday afternoons!

"Finish-Up" Friday:

Students who are missing assignments will go to another classroom to complete their work.



ABSENCES & MAKE-UP WORK

Parents: If your child is absent, you are welcome to pick up missed assignments at the END of the school day. This will ensure that your child has all of the needed materials, notes, and handouts in order to complete the missed lessons.

It is the <u>student's responsibility</u> to make sure that all the missing assignments have been turned in.



Please Note:

Missing 3+ days of school is handled differently. If your child will be out for an extended period of time, please contact me at least a week prior to the planned absence.

COMMUNICATION

All papers are sent home with students on Friday in their FORCE Folders. This includes important notes and announcements from the office or myself as well as student work.

Please share items in "FORCE Folders" with your parents on Fridays!

Our home-school communication is emailed out on Fridays. **Parents:** check your email for "Friday News" ©



FIELD TRIPS

Our field trips in 4th grade typically include:

1st Trimester:

California State Capitol

2nd Trimester:

Blue Line Arts in Roseville

3rd Trimester:

Museum & Pioneer Village in Folsom Science Day in Sacramento (?)



Please Note:

Chaperone's will be chosen on a first-come-first-serve basis. However, if you have attended one field trip, then I would like to give another parent a chance to attend.

PARENT VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers are always welcome!

I invite you to spend time with our class.

Please fill out the "Parent Volunteer" page to let me know when/where/how you would be willing & able to help.

"Category I" vs. "Category II" Clearance?



VOLUNTEER CLEARANCE

All volunteers must be cleared through RCSD.

Category I: Volunteers who visit school on an occasional basis to participate in activities always within view of school staff and are never left alone with students. Participation as a Category I volunteer does not require fingerprinting or TB testing. School site administrator approves Category I volunteers. Examples include:

- Attendance at classroom/school events, fairs, recognitions, celebrations
- Classroom or lunch time visit on limited basis few times per year
- Classroom presenters
- Clerical volunteers copying, collating, filing etc.
- High school student volunteer in high school sponsored program
- Participation in school beautification projects or projects of a limited duration



"Category I" = observer on campus or helper with no direct contact with students

VOLUNTEER CLEARANCE

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<u>Category II:</u> Volunteers who participate at school or in school activities on a regular basis and who may under the direction of certificated personnel work with students outside the direct supervision of staff. Participation as a Category II volunteer requires fingerprint and TB clearance prior to beginning as a volunteer. School site administrator and District office approve Category II volunteers. Examples include:

- Regularly scheduled classroom/school support
- Supervision of students before school, after school, during breakfast and/or lunch
- Day field trip chaperone
- Overnight field trip chaperone
- Before, during or after school enrichment program supervisors
- Club Sponsors



"Category II" = work with students and chaperone field trips

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

- Library Volunteers (1x each week)
- Copy Helpers (1 day each week)
- Room Parent (3 class parties)
- Math Facts (1-2xs a week)
- Reading Groups (3xs a week)
- Correcting Papers (multiple choice quizzes only)
- Art Docent (1x a month)







Available for purchase at Back to School Night!



Also online at www.FFEPTC.com



BACK TO SCHOOL

Meet & Greet

August 8th @ 5:30pm

ROOM 21

I'm looking forward to a GREAT year with "our" kids!

~Ms. Pulis