

**Class Syllabus
Mrs. Lewis
2017-2018**

Mrs. Karyn Lewis
Bates Academy
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Detroit, MI 48221
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Parent conferences by appointment only and will be limited to 15 minutes

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Welcome to the 2017-2018 school year. Another school year and another opportunity to help mold creative and intelligent minds! My name is Mrs. Lewis and I am excited to be your child's teacher fourth grade ELA and social studies teacher.

Our classroom environment is designed to encourage critical thinking, problem solving, cooperative learning, responsibility, organization, and promote a continual craving for knowledge. All instruction will be differentiated to provide an individual learning plan.

Some of the things your fourth grader will experience this year will be very familiar. Other things will be new and different. Students will have the opportunity to work in whole class demonstrations, cooperative groups and peer tutoring, learning centers to explore various objectives and independently to hone personal skills. I hope the following information will provide you with basic information of what will be expected of your child this year. The mission for the school year is to provide my students with a rigorous curriculum which entails students transferring knowledge of concepts learned in ELA and social studies to current and past life situations.

In order to make this a successful school year, you and I must work together. Together we can insure your fourth grader has the best possible experience.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns. My email address is Karyn.lewis@detroitk12.org. The phone number is (313) 494-7132. I will respond to either method at my earliest convenience.

Thank you for your support,

Mrs. Lewis

CLASSROOM POLICIES

Restroom

There will be lavatory breaks throughout the day. If your child has a medical condition that requires her/him to use the restroom repeatedly, please inform me by sending a note or an email.

Birthday Celebrations

Birthday parties are not allowed in the classroom or lunchroom this year.

Homework

Homework will usually be given Monday through Thursday. On occasions, some homework will be given to complete over the weekend. Please understand that homework is used to reinforce concepts presented during class and is not a large part of students' grades. Students should be able to complete these assignments with minimal assistance. Homework will be collected in most instances. Students will however earn credit for their work and the assignments will be reviewed during class.

All homework assignments are due the day after they are given unless indicated otherwise.

- Keep homework in a pocket folder unless otherwise specified.
- All homework should be completed in **pencil**. No Pens!
- All assignments must be labeled with your first and last name, student number, class number, and date.
- All work should be neatly and carefully written so that it is easy to read.
- Late homework **will not** be accepted.

Late Projects

All late work will only be accepted within 24 hours from its due date (with the exception of assignments due on a Friday). Students will have 10% deducted from their grade if it is one day late. This does not include homework.

Locker Access

Students are encouraged to get any items needed for class from their lockers at the start of the school day and once again after lunch. It is imperative that students are responsible and get all necessary items. Extra trips to the lockers throughout the school day are a distraction and will not be permitted. Students are not allowed to place locks on the lockers.

CLASSROOM DISCIPLINE PLAN

The discipline plan in our class is simple yet effective. It begins with my expectations of students. Your child is expected to conduct him or herself in an age-appropriate manner that demonstrates respect for the class, themselves, individual classmates, the classroom teacher, the building, and other staff. There are four classroom rules: BE RESPECTFUL, BE RESPONSIBLE, BE SAFE and BE READY. We will review these rules daily and as needed throughout the school year.

We are using a Positive Behavior Intervention System. Every day the students begin at the top of the chart on blue which means excellent.

Consequences: What happens when a rule is broken?

1st time: The clip is moved to green. Student receives a warning.

2nd time: Student moves clip to yellow. The student will then be sent to another class to refocus.

3rd time: Student moves clip to orange. Teacher/student will contact parent via phone or note.

4th time: Student moves clip to red. A behavioral referral will be sent to the office.

Rewards: positive notes or phone calls, class jobs, special privileges, free homework pass, citizenship award, etc.

General Course information

Reading

Reading/Language Arts instruction will consist of the Imagine It Reading series. Students will need to bring **at least two** reading books/materials to the classroom every day for daily reading practice. Students will be evaluated in reading on Comprehension Assessments, Vocabulary Assessments, Homework, Class work and Projects. Some of the concepts to be covered in reading include, character analysis, understanding informational texts, sequence of events, as well as compare and contrast. Please continue to read to and with your children on a daily basis. This helps to improve fluency and create a joy for reading.

English & Writing

Students will receive instruction in Grammar and writing skills in the English curriculum. Each morning, students will complete editing assignments as a “Do Now” which will reinforce writing, editing, and grammar skills. Students will be evaluated in English on Grammar assessments, Homework, Published Writing, and Class work. During the school year in writing, students will cover revising drafts of writing (all students must complete at least two drafts of a piece of writing before they can publish), showing personal style or voice in writing, grammar usage, as well as exploring writing genres.

Word Study/Spelling

Spelling instruction will be referred to as word study as students will study words and their various patterns in addition to learning to spell each word. Word study assessments will consist of words students have been assigned as well as other words that follow the same pattern. The evaluation system for spelling will consist of weekly assessments, class work, and homework.

Social Studies

Social Studies is the integrated study of the social sciences to prepare young people to become responsible citizens. Responsible citizens display social understanding and civic efficacy. Social understanding includes knowledge of the human condition, how it has changed over time, the variations that occur in different physical environments and cultural settings, and the emerging trends that appear likely to shape the future in an interdependent world. Civic efficacy is the readiness and willingness to assume responsibilities of citizenship, knowing how, when, and where to make informed and reasoned decisions for the public good in a democratic society.

Students work to establish a firm foundation of the geography, economics and government of the United States in preparation for the 5th grade study of United States history next year.

Students will be evaluated in reading on Assessments, Homework, Class work and Projects.

Grading Scale

A = 100%-90%

B= 89%-80%

C= 79%-70%

D= 69%-60%

F= 59%- below

Parent Communication and Information Form

Return this sheet to Mrs. Lewis

Student Number _____

Class Number _____

_____ I have received and read Mrs. Lewis' Class Syllabus.

Child's Name _____

Parent Signature _____

Date _____

.....
Child's Full Name _____

Child's Birth date _____

Address (please include city, state, and zip code)

Mother's Name _____

Home Phone _____

Cell Phone _____

Work phone _____

Email address _____

Father's Name _____

Home Phone _____

Cell Phone _____

Work phone _____

Email address _____

Emergency Contacts:

Name _____ relationship _____ phone number _____

Name _____ relationship _____ phone number _____

Any additional information you would like to share:
