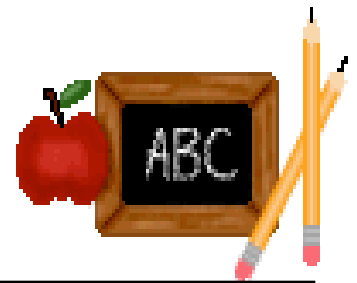
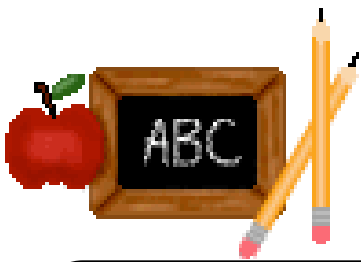


# 4th Grade News

Mrs. Shaw  
Room 22  
September 5, 2008



## Curriculum Update

The Room #22 4th Graders did a terrific job of listening and working hard to learn their many new daily responsibilities and classroom procedures. As I told the kiddos on Wednesday, the first week of school is considered a "training week" so that we can be highly functional and efficient once we begin our regular schedule with 4th grade curriculum, activities, and homework. I was delighted by their enthusiasm, patience, and politeness. (They have already received a few compliments by other Oak Street adults who noticed their manners and friendliness!)

This portion of our bi-weekly classroom newsletter will highlight the concepts that we are working on in ELA, Math, Science, and Social Studies. I will also often include suggestions for how families can either review, extend, or enrich the material being taught in the classroom. You should be able to gain insight as to your child's progress and understanding of the material based on his/her homework performance and the graded assignments that I will send home in the Take-Home Folders.

## Announcements, Updates, and Reminders

Looking forward to seeing you at our 4th Grade Meeting for Families (adults only please) on Monday evening - 9/8 from 6:00 P.M. to 7:00 P.M. I will share our classroom guidelines (created by the students), daily schedule, consequences and rewards program, volunteer opportunities, communication methods, etc. It is a great opportunity for you to catch a glimpse of life as a 4th grader in Mrs. Shaw's classroom, and it is also a chance for all of us to come together as a community and get to know one another.

Don't forget Oak Street School's Open House on Wednesday, Sept. 10th. The picnic begins at 5:00 P.M., followed by a meeting in the gymnasium with Mrs. Zales and then classroom visits.

## Celebrating the Fourth!

We have begun writing our "Hopes and Dreams" for our year together. I ask each student to identify one or two Hopes and Dreams he/she has for his/her academic, social, emotional, and/or physical success this school year. They will be posted for you to read when you come to the classroom on Monday evening. I encourage you to ask your child about his/her Hopes and Dreams and discuss how the family can also support him/her in making them a reality. This is a beginning-of-the-year activity that I learned from a management framework called the Responsive Classroom Model, and I believe it is a terrific goal-setting tool. We will revisit our Hopes and Dreams throughout the year, monitor our progress to determine what is working or not working, and make necessary changes in our habits or behaviors. One of my hopes is that the 4th graders will enjoy learning how to self-assess and celebrate their growth so that this becomes a life-long practice!