

Dear Fourth Grade Families,

Welcome to Fourth Grade! We are so excited to begin a new school year with you and your child!

Our classroom is rooted in the wisdom and beauty of nature because nature reminds us that growth isn't a race. Mighty oak trees take decades to reach their full height, wildflowers bloom in their own seasons, and even the smallest seed holds incredible potential. Everything in nature takes patience, care, courage, and time.

Just as sunshine and rain both help a garden flourish, challenges and triumphs help us become stronger and kinder. We want our students to feel safe taking risks, asking questions, celebrating successes, and learning from mistakes. We will provide the environment where each child can develop strong roots through kindness, responsibility, and perseverance while finding the confidence to branch out, explore new ideas, and discover their own strengths. We will provide the instruction, encouragement, and the support each child needs to blossom.

Our greatest priorities are simple: we want our students/your children to be happy, to feel that they belong, and to always give their personal best. Academic growth is important, but so is developing compassion, curiosity, resilience, and confidence because research shows that when children know they are valued and capable, amazing things begin to grow.

We believe that a strong partnership between home and school helps children flourish, and we look forward to working together throughout the year. Thank you for sharing your child with us. We cannot wait to learn, laugh, explore, and grow together during what we know will be a wonderful fourth grade year!

Warmly,

Anne Marie Spina & Michele Smith

