

Dear New Fourth Grade Parents,

As the Fourth Grade Team, we wanted to introduce ourselves to you and begin our commitment to maintaining close contact between school and home. Our partnership with you next year will assure your child's success in fourth grade. We look forward to becoming personally acquainted with you and your child and wanted to share some information with you that would, perhaps, make your child's transition to fourth grade a little smoother.

**Summer Suggestions:**

- **Read! Read! Read!** Research proves that children who read and are read to regularly develop better reading skills and become more successful learners. Next year your child will be expected to read from 20 – 30 minutes daily. Doing that over the summer would certainly reinforce that expectation for next year and polish your child's reading skills.

The following web-site is an excellent resource to help encourage summer reading:

<http://www.bookadventure.com/>

- **Basic Math Facts** Students should come into fourth grade having immediate command of basic addition and subtraction facts and able to choose the correct operation to solve a problem. Students should have command of multiplication facts from 0-12. During 4<sup>th</sup> grade, students will be expected to have “fluency with multi-digit multiplication, and developing understanding of dividing to find quotients involving multi-digit dividends.”

A few web-sites to help students practice math facts are as follows:

[www.factmonster.com/math/flashcards.html](http://www.factmonster.com/math/flashcards.html)

[www.multiplication.com](http://www.multiplication.com)

[www.mathplayground.com](http://www.mathplayground.com)

- **Handwriting** Students' manuscript and cursive handwriting should show properly formed letters, correctly sized letters (lower case versus upper case), and correctly aligned letters (letters that sit on the lines rather than float above the lines or sink below the lines). Allow your child to practice his/her cursive by writing out your grocery list for you, writing thank you notes or friendly letters to family and friends, “playing school” with a chalkboard or whiteboard, keeping a daily journal, writing imaginative stories, etc. To begin, supervise your child's writing to assure his/her letters are formed in the right directions (oval letters going to the left and around, rather than to the right and round and round like a roller coaster).

We look forward to getting to know you and your child next school year.

Sincerely,

Fourth Grade Teaching Team  
Netzaberg Elementary School