

# Welcome to 4th Grade!

## Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s):

We would like to take the time to personally welcome you and your child to 4<sup>th</sup> grade. We are looking forward to an exciting new year. There are a few things that we would like you to be aware of for the upcoming school year!

1. **Students are tardy at 7:50am and class begins promptly at that time. They MUST be IN their classroom by 7:50, not just in the building.**
  - Please have your child at school by 7:40, **earlier if they need to eat breakfast.**
  - Students may be dropped off as early as 7:10!
  - Having your child here early helps them to be prepared for the day!
2. **Please limit early checkouts,** our instruction continues right up to dismissal each day.
3. **Students will switch classes this year!** Your child will have either Mrs. Estime or Mrs. Crawford-Bonardy for ELA and social studies AND either Mrs. Holmes or Mr. Savidge for math and science. They have CREW with their homeroom teacher.
4. **The school uses Remind as our primary form of communication.**
  - Please sign up for the school Remind & your child's Remind Class ASAP!
    - ❖ **BACS - @brightena**
    - ❖ **Estime & Holmes - @4thEH23**
    - ❖ **Crawford-Bonardy & Savidge - @4thCS23**
  - When contacting your child's teacher, please allow 24 work hours for a response.
5. **4<sup>th</sup> Grades Website:** <http://bacs4thgrade.weebly.com/>

**Dismissal Location:** Car riders will be picked up from the **back of the building** under the breeze way (the bridge that connects the two buildings). You may access this area from either direction behind the building, but **NOT** the sidewalk between the buildings that comes from the playground.

**\*Anyone who picks up a child MUST have THIS year's car rider card EVERY TIME.** If the card is not available, they will be directed to the office to check their driver's license, and the child will be called to the office for pick up. **This is for student safety.**

**Transportation:** Any changes in your child's regular transportation, must be relayed to the office in **written form**. We cannot allow students to go home a different way without written notification. This is for student safety. If you need to make a change to their transportation during the school day, please call the office!

**Absences & Make-Up Work:** Please provide a written excuse when your child is absent from school. This should be sent in on the day your child returns to school. Please refer to the attendance policy in the student handbook. It is your child's responsibility to check with his/her teacher for missed assignments upon returning to school.

**Behavior Expectations & Weekly Agenda:** We have high behavior expectations for all our students. Habits of Scholarship(7Cs) are assessed on the report card. We will go over the school and classroom norms, so students are aware of the expectations. We will use the agenda to communicate with you regarding homework, reminders, and behavior. **Please review and sign your child's Agenda every night!**

### **Grading:**

Brighten Academy uses Standards-Based Grading, a system which communicates how students are performing on a set of clearly defined learning targets developed from the standards. It measures a student's mastery of grade-level standards by prioritizing the most recent, consistent level of performance. Students will have a series of assessments—both formative (during learning) and summative (at the end of the learning) that will check their progress towards mastery. Practice assignments and homework are for practice and serve as feedback for the teacher and student. For this reason, many papers will not have a number grade on them, but will simply be checked for completion, progress and accuracy. When work is sent home, please review it and sign papers that are marked to be signed. We will look at the most current, consistent scores to determine the grade on the report card. If you have any questions, please feel free to ask your child's teacher!

<b>Key to Achievement of Performance Standards</b>		
<b>3D</b>	<b>Exceeding</b>	INDEPENDENTLY goes beyond what is taught; <b>above grade level</b> application; transfers to real world contexts
<b>3</b>	<b>Meeting</b>	INDEPENDENTLY understands and applies <b>grade level</b> simple <u>and</u> complex concepts.
<b>2.5</b>	<b>Approaching</b>	WITH GUIDANCE understands and applies <u>most</u> grade level simple and complex concepts
<b>2</b>	<b>Progressing</b>	WITH MUCH SUPPORT understands and <u>inconsistently</u> applies <u>some</u> grade level simple and complex concepts
<b>1.5 / 1</b>	<b>Not Progressing</b>	WITH SUPPORT understands <u>few</u> simple grade level concepts; performs <b>below grade level</b>
<b>*</b>	<b>Not Evaluated</b>	standards within a domain were not assessed or there is not adequate data to provide a grade.

<b>SIMPLE CONCEPTS</b>	<b>Knowledge Comprehension</b>	Name, identify, label, match, list, summarize, understand, demonstrate
<b>COMPLEX CONCEPTS</b>	<b>Application Analysis Synthesis Evaluation</b>	Use, apply, problem solve, design, experiment, organize, recognize trends, design, invent, compose, infer, modify, predict, combine, compare ideas, evaluate outcomes, judge, recommend, rate

**Homework:** Your child may have homework Monday-Thursday and an occasional project that might require additional time on the weekends to complete. Brighten Academy's homework policy allows for 45-60 minutes of homework each night for 4<sup>th</sup> graders which does include 20-30 minutes of nightly reading time. **Your child will be responsible for writing down** their homework, important dates, and any other important information in their Agenda each day. Please make sure to review these assignments and check for completion!

**Conferences:** You are required to attend two Student Led Conferences this year to review your child's progress and goals for the year. These take place in the fall and spring. You may request a conference at any time during the year, but all conferences must be scheduled.

**Technology:** There is a \$25 Technology Fee that will be billed through MySchoolBucks. Students are NOT allowed to bring any kind of technology from home this year and cannot take school computers home.

**Field Trips:** We are planning field trips for this year! Stay posted for more details!!

**Breakfast & Lunch:** **Breakfast: \$1.60      Lunch: \$3.15**

4<sup>th</sup> grade goes to lunch at 12:05pm on 3:15pm dismissal days.

\*Students can order a take home lunch on Wednesdays and any 12:00pm dismissal days. PLEASE make sure your child knows if they need to order a take home lunch on 12:00 dismissal days. If your child orders a take home lunch, their account is charged for the lunch even if they do not pick it up at dismissal.

You can view the menus through [www.SLALunch.com](http://www.SLALunch.com)

**Snack:** Your child may bring a snack to eat during the day. It is very important that snacks are healthy, **mess free**, and can be consumed **without the use of utensils**. Your child may bring a water bottle with **water only** to school each day, no other beverages will be allowed in the classroom. Please make sure the bottle is spill-leak proof and has their name!

Examples of suggested items:

\*Fruit (pre-cut and pre-peeled, grapes, apple slices)

\*Pop Tarts

\*Veggies (carrots, celery sticks, sweet peppers, cucumbers)

\*Breakfast Bars (nut-free)

\*Crackers (saltines, graham crackers, ritz's crackers )

\* Goldfish/Cheez-Its

**Specials:** Students have specials from **11:15am -12:00pm**.

Please make sure your child wears appropriate clothes and tennis shoes for PE days.

<b>FALL</b>	<b>Mon</b>	<b>Tues</b>	<b>Thurs</b>	<b>Fri</b>		<b>SPRING</b>	<b>Mon</b>	<b>Tues</b>	<b>Thurs</b>	<b>Fri</b>
<b>Estime</b>	Health	Music	Chorus	Art		<b>Estime</b>	PE	PE	Spanish	Drama
<b>Holmes</b>	Music	Chorus	Art	Health		<b>Holmes</b>	PE	Spanish	Drama	PE
<b>Savidge</b>	Chorus	Art	Health	Music		<b>Savidge</b>	Spanish	Drama	PE	PE
<b>Crawford-Bonardy</b>	Art	Health	Music	Chorus		<b>Crawford-Bonardy</b>	Drama	PE	PE	Spanish

Your child comes first in our classrooms. Their education, safety, and well-being is important to us. We look forward to a successful year!

Educationally yours,

Mrs. Estime, Mrs. Crawford-Bonardy, Mr. Savidge, and Mrs. Holmes

**Please detach this page, sign, and return to your child's teacher.**

# Welcome to 4th Grade!

I have read and reviewed the Welcome to 4<sup>th</sup> grade letter with my child.  
I am aware of the expectations of my child and my communication options!

**Student Name** \_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent/Guardian Name** \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_