

August 19, 2013

4th grade parents,

The motto for our class should be "Miss a day, miss a lot!" and today's half-day was no exception! We went over the classroom expectations, organized all our school supplies, had a multiplication test AND a spelling test, worked on an "I Am" poem, reviewed the Ashley Handbook, planned our geoboard project and actually began construction by measuring, cutting, and sanding the wooden boards. WHEW!

Each child SHOULD have brought home their daily communication folder (yellow plastic) - inside you will find:

- The weekly homework planner, a page that outlines their homework for each day. Once homework is complete each day, the planner should be signed by a parent.
- The homework for today is to complete their "I Am" poem and then to copy it on a clean sheet of paper using their best cursive writing. They will present their poems in class tomorrow and then we'll display them on a bulletin board.
- Students are expected to read for pleasure at least 20 minutes each evening, and to practice basic skills - based on today's simple multiplication test, ALL students need to work on their basic multiplication tables tonight!
- A copy of the lunch order form previously emailed is also included in today's folder - unless you're packing a lunch for your child, please fill out this form and send it back tomorrow.

Your student has brought home a copy of the Ashley Academy Handbook. We quickly reviewed the sections relevant to a 4th grader today in class, but you are asked to read the handbook in full and sign and return the confirmation (back) page where indicated.

On Wednesday we will begin studying our first literature book "Poppy" by Avi - all students will need to bring a copy of this book to class by Wednesday morning.

As previously mentioned, we have begun construction of the student geoboards. This will go more quickly the more tools we have, so if you can lend us a rubber mallet (for hammering the pushpins) and/or an awl (for marking the pushpin holes) it would be much appreciated!

Finally, I've posted the 4th grade syllabus on my website under the "Parents" tab - please review it before Thursday's parent meeting so that I can answer any

questions you might have.

I look forward to seeing you Thursday at 6:30 - if you have any questions, concerns or comments before then, please let me know.

Mr. McIlquham