



August 14, 2005

Dear Parents,

Welcome to a new school year for your fourth grader! I'm excited about working with your child and also getting to know you. I have planned this year to be packed with a variety learning activities and creative yet rigorous academic opportunities.

It is very important for us to maintain good communication in order to best meet the needs of your child. Every week students will bring home completed assignments in their "Work Folder" for your perusal and signature. There is also a designated area for you to place any comments, advice or questions you may have. Students will also have homework four nights per week for approximately 40 minutes. Homework is an extension of classwork and will include mathematics, writing across the curriculum, vocabulary study, projects, and reading. Reading is a crucial way for students to absorb language and develop their literacy skills.

In the classroom, students will be using technology regularly to enhance school projects. Students will also access the Internet and will use sites pre-selected for conducting research. I believe it is extremely important to enforce student safety with respect to the Internet, and will only post your child's work and photo with your permission. I will not post any classroom photo with students names attached. I hope that both students and parents will feel comfortable fully participating this school year, and if there exist any concerns, feel free to contact me for further discussion.

Parent volunteer help is always welcome, as fourth grade sees a different dynamic in the amount of students and academic rigor. The fourth grade standards demand great effort and challenging work as students are required to write multi-paragraph essays in narrative and expository form, write research reports, conduct scientific experiments while collecting and graphing data, and venture into algebraic and geometric concepts. It is an exciting curriculum which I look forward to presenting in a variety of ways to access all types of learning styles.

The fastest way to contact me is by e-mail. I receive my school email at home as well. I'm looking forward to a great school year with your child. Keep in touch!

Sincerely,
Mrs. Maria Geib

e-mail: maria.geib@vtusd.k12.ca.us

____ I have read this letter & classroom policies.

____ I would like to correspond by e-mail and check it regularly.

E-mail address: _____

____ Yes! I'd like to volunteer in the classroom. I can help in the classroom on (days of week) _____ from (times) _____

____ I am interested in helping out with: _____

Child's Name

Parent's Signature

Please keep this letter and return just the lower portion and the Beginning of Year Quick Information Sheet. Thanks!