

# Cheatham Fourth Grade Handbook

## 2022-2023



### COMMUNICATION

Parent-Teacher communication is essential to supporting a student effectively. We have several ways to ensure communication.

1. Agenda book- This is where you will find homework assignments, upcoming events & communication calendar.
2. Communication calendar - This informs you of your child's daily behavior. A "Folder Signature" indicates a student did not meet a Charger expectation after verbal warnings. **Please check your child's Communication Calendar every school day and sign on Fridays.**
3. Email-The best way to communicate is through email as we can check it when we have the opportunity. We will do our best to respond within 24 hours. To ensure a timely response, please direct your question to the appropriate subject teacher.
4. Dismissal changes- if your child's dismissal changes during the day, please call the office.
5. Newsletter- gives topics we are currently studying as well as important dates of upcoming events. This will be sent twice a month.



### HOMEWORK

**Mondays through Thursdays, students in fourth grade may have an average of 40 minutes of homework per night. Assignment due dates will be noted in the agenda.**

Homework is intended to practice skills already learned in class, to spark thinking related to the topic to be studied the following day, or to study for tests. Since learners work at different rates, some fluctuation of time will occur. However, if your child is unable to complete the tasks in a reasonable amount of time, please notify your child's teacher.



### MISSING AND MAKE UP WORK

When a student has an excused absence, they are allowed one day for each day of the absence to make up the missed work. It is the **student's responsibility** to make sure they collect all their missing assignments from their teachers when returning to school. We will communicate with the student any missing assignments or late work that was not from absences. We will follow district policy which states each day late is minus 10 points on the assignment.



## **TECHNOLOGY**

We discuss with our students the appropriate and responsible use of technology in addition to the application GoGuardian, which helps teachers manage their students' daily online activity, provide meaningful feedback, and eliminate distractions. Please talk with your child at home about the appropriate use of their district-issued device as well as how to properly care for it. We also encourage you to review the Allen ISD [Empower 1:1 Handbook 2022-2023](#) to answer any questions you or your child may have regarding this policy or Allen ISD's Student Code of Conduct and Student Handbook.



## **SOCIAL EMOTIONAL LEARNING**

Students will continue to have lessons regarding Social Emotional Learning. A parent handout with accompanying lessons that you can do with your child at home will be attached to most newsletters.



## **GRADES**

Grades are updated weekly on Skyward. We will follow the district grading policy of tests, quizzes, and projects are 40% and daily work is 60%. With your child, reflect on the school work together. Compliment them on their handwriting, grades, neatness, original ideas and discuss areas of improvement. We appreciate your support at home.

Graded work below 70% is returned to the student for corrections (after a re-teaching session has occurred). When work is corrected, a 70 is the highest grade attainable and will replace the previous grade. The grades are not averaged together. We may work on these assignments together in class or these papers may be sent home to finish correcting. Our goal is to ensure success for your student.



## **MORNING SNACK**

Students may bring a nutritious morning snack to eat while learning. Fruit, cheese cubes, granola bar, trail mix, crackers, or a half-sandwich are good choices.

- *Avoid dessert items & "junk food" like chips/candy*
- *Avoid any nut products including peanut butter*
- *Also, please avoid messy foods or snacks requiring a spoon to eat, so snacks don't spill on work or technology*

Please note that students may not share snacks, and parents may not bring snacks for the whole class.

**Water Bottles-** Students MUST bring a reusable water bottle for hydration throughout the day. Only water is permitted in the classroom. Reusable bottles with a sport top are recommended.



Lunches delivered to school will be placed on a designated table near the front desk of the school building. Lunch account payments can be made before school in the cafeteria or online. Please make sure your child's lunch is arranged each day prior to lunch time.

Parents are welcome to visit at lunch on non-testing days. Parents may only eat with their child on the stage; other students cannot join you. If bringing lunch for your child, please note that you and your child may not share food with other students.



To avoid hurt feelings among classmates, all party invitations should be mailed unless invitations are provided for every child, all boys or all girls in the classroom. We enjoy celebrating student birthdays in the classroom. Each teacher has their own practice for acknowledging students on their special day, and we allow parents to send a small trinket (stickers, pencils, etc.) to be handed out to classmates at the end of the day. While we discourage parents from providing food for other students, Lauren's Law allows a parent to provide a treat to the class on their child's birthday. If you choose to send a treat for the class, please ensure it is store bought and allergen free. The teacher will hand it out at the end of the school day. Please communicate in advance with the classroom teacher regarding student dietary restrictions.

### **CLOTHING**

As a reminder, shorts and skirts must reach mid-thigh or longer. Sleeveless shirts should fit snug under the arm. Tube tops, halters, midriffs, spaghetti straps, and tank tops are prohibited. Shirts must be long enough to cover the midriff even when arms are raised over the student's head. Students will have P.E. and/or recess every day. For safety reasons, students should wear/bring tennis shoes/sneakers.

**\*\*\*Please refer to the Allen ISD Student Handbook for further details.**

### **ABSENCES AND TARDIES**

The majority of the learning that takes place at school is through teacher instruction, classroom discussion, and experiments. Therefore, it is extremely important for your child to be at school and on time.

**School begins promptly at 7:45 a.m.** Students arriving after 7:45 a.m. must stop by the office for a tardy slip. The school doors open at 7:30 a.m. For safety purposes, **students may not be dropped off prior to 7:30 a.m.** Students will report directly to their homeroom.

**In the event of an absence, parents enter their child's absence through Skyward/Family Access as soon as the absence is known.**

**In addition, a parent or doctor note should be sent with your child upon returning from any absence.** A signed note received within 3 days of absence is required for an absence to be considered excused.



**Car Riders:** K-1 (and older students with siblings in K-1) will dismiss out the front door of the school. Grades 2-6 will be dismissed on the south side of the building. Please use the crosswalk when picking up your child from the parking lot. Due to safety, students are not allowed to cross the parking lot without being accompanied by an adult.

**Car Tags:**

- We utilize a car tag system for student dismissal to increase the safety and security of our students. Every Cheatham family will be issued a car tag number. A family that has multiple children at Cheatham, every student within that family will have the same car tag number.
- Students will be given a backpack tag with their car tag number printed on it. Backpack tags must remain on each students' backpack all year.
- Parents will receive 2 car tags matching your child(ren)'s number.
- A car tag **must** be present for all car riders and parent pick-up zones as they will be checked against the student's backpack tag to ensure the numbers match. If no car tag is present, the parent will need to go to the front office to show identification to check their child out. Parents in a carpool line will need to park in the parking lot before entering the front door of the building.
- If you lose your car tag, please contact your child's teacher.

**Walkers & Bike Riders-** Students will be supervised out of the building to their respective areas. For safety purposes, all students should go straight home.

**Kids Club, Bus and Daycare Riders:** Students will report to their designated waiting area and will be supervised until their bus arrives.

**To avoid confusion, if your child will be traveling home any way other than the "normal" mode, please send in a note at the beginning of the school day or call the school office. We are not always able to check our email in time.**