\*\*PLEASE READ OVER WITH YOUR CHILD!!

Dear Parents and students,

Welcome to 4th and 5th grade at St. Francis of Assisi School! My name is Mrs. Wagner (English Language Arts, Reading, and Science Teacher) I will be your child’s teacher for the 2013-2014 school year. I am looking forward to teaching and learning from your child! Communication between a parent, a student, and the student’s teacher is one of the most important tools that enable children to be successful. I invite you to call or email me if you have questions or concerns:

~ The phone number to the front office is: 716-692-7886

~ My email: bly@stfrancistonawanda.org

I will do my best to return calls and emails promptly.

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Our classroom goal is that each child:

~ Attempts every assignment;

~ Turns it in on time;

~ Shows effort.

WE WANT TO BE PROUD OF WHAT WE DO AND WITH MAXIMUM EFFORT WE CAN REALLY SOAR!!!!

ATTENDENCE: Children must attend school daily to ensure they learn the academic and social concepts and skills they will need next year, in middle school, and beyond. School begins at 7:45 and instruction begins promptly at 7:52. If your child is absent due to illness, please notify the office before school begins (if possible) and a note must be sent in when your child returns. Please notify me if your child will be absent for an extended period of time or has a prearranged absence (example: doctor’s appointment). Students are responsible for all missed assignments.

HOMEWORK POLICY: THE GOAL IN 4TH GRADE IS THAT ALL WORK IS COMPLETED ON TIME! ---This can really aid in increased scores.

The most important objective is that maximum effort is used when completing all spelling assignments and book reports (information to follow). A loss of points will be given for work that is showing little to no effort.

Most students benefit from a designated time and a quiet place which is set aside for homework.  If after two to three weeks of school more than 20 minutes is being spent on ELA or spelling homework nightly, please contact me.

In addition, 20 minutes of reading will be assigned every day. Please encourage your child to read their book report books for this assignment, it will help them complete all assignments in a timely fashion.

Spelling homework will be given out daily (Monday through Wednesday) and a test will be given on Thursday each week. This is graded on a 4 point scale, with a loss of one point for each day late. If it is not turned in by test day, they will receive a 0! Effort is included in this score.

Monday: 4x each (Best cursive)

Tuesday: Sentences or Definitions (With maximum detail)

Wednesday: Study & ABC order

Thursday: Show me what you learned!!

BOOK REPORTS: There will be a monthly book report due on the 6th of each month. Each book report will have a different Genre of literature, a hand-in project, and a one page summary. Please encourage your child to read this book for their 20 minute daily reading so that projects can be worked on in a timely fashion. Each book report will be out of 100 points.

25%- One page summary

25%- Turned in Project

25%- Presentation, clear understanding of story, Public Speaking

25%- Effort, neatness, turned in on time

Students, who turn in 100% of their weekly assignments, will be rewarded with the satisfaction that they accomplished a weekly goal and ensured an inspirational grade.

All daily assignments are written on the board and explained orally.  Students are required to write their assignments in their planner each morning.  I ask that you go over your child’s assignments with him/her each night.

ORGANIZATION:

HEADING: School heading needs to be on every loose leaf paper they hand in (this will be learned in class.)

ELA-Green

Science-Black

Each student will have a reference file in the classroom with helpful materials learned throughout the year. Students may use their files in class when needed.

ABSENCES AND MAKE-UP WORK: When a student is absent, school policy allows homework due dates to be extended one school day per day of an excused absence. Encourage your child to hand it in as quickly as possible so homework completion does not become a problem. If a student is absent on a test day, they will take the test on the day that they come back.

BEHAVIOR: Our expectation is that all students follow the St. Francis Discipline policy signed by parents and their children during the first week of school. Please take time to make yourself and your child familiar with the policy and its consequences. Each classroom will emphasize a positive behavior plan that will allow your child to achieve the best possible education where he/she feels safe and is able to experience academic success.

Our discipline policy is based on an understanding of mutual respect. If there are individual difficulties, I will work closely with the parents and students to ensure that the learning environment continues to be a positive place for everyone.

In case a poor choice is made, the following steps will be taken:

a. A warning will be given.

b. Child will miss out on a special activity during the week

c. Student is given a problem solver to complete, which is sent home for a parent

review and signature AND a lunch detention

d. Parent will be contacted and then child will go on school discipline policy

Note: After school detention times may also be used for consistent missing or incomplete assignments/homework. NEATNESS: Each student is encouraged to take pride in the work turned in for a grade.

Marble System: Marbles can be earned if the class is working collaboratively on good behavior. When all marbles are moved from one bin to the other the class earns a party.

SNACK: We will have a small snack sometime during the morning. Your child must bring in their own, healthy snack for this time. They are NOT allowed to share snacks. Snacks that are allowed: fruit snacks, pretzels, cheese-its, gold fish, fruit, and vegetables. If they have an unhealthy snack they will not be allowed to eat it. They are not allowed to bring in a juice for snack. They may keep a water bottle on their desk.

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We have read and discussed the class policies and we understand what is expected in 4th grade.

PLEASE PRINT!

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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

Parent email account: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent phone number: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

(This will allow me to better communicate with you about your child and upcoming school events. Thank you!)