

MRS. BULLOCK'S CLASSROOM POLICIES
2017-2018



**Important Note: Students will also need to purchase a Bible and a planner from the school office. Thank you!!*

Welcome to Fourth Grade! It is a pleasure to start the school year with this great group of students! The purpose of this packet is to identify classroom policies, behavior plan, and homework for the year. The goals for fourth grade are:

- To live out our FAITH in daily life and grow in our relationship with JESUS.
 - To perform OUR BEST to successfully master material.
- To develop and maintain a RESPONSIBLE behavior and attitude that reinforces natural rewards and consequences.
 - To learn and apply good STUDY HABITS.

Behavior: The students will be responsible for their own actions, being honest, and being trustworthy when dealing with the consequences. They will make their choices, knowing the consequence. Students will be expected to follow these rules while in the classroom and on school grounds.

1. Show God's love in all you do.
2. Listen when someone else is talking.
3. Follow directions the first time they are given.
4. Treat everyone with kindness and respect.
5. Take care of our school and classroom.
6. Work and play safely and quietly.

Rewards and Consequences: Adherence to the class rules is tracked using a checkmark system. A checkmark is given to a student who needs to be redirected after having already received a verbal reminder. Weekly checkmarks are kept on a clipboard. Progress report and report card conduct grades are calculated based on the number of marks a student receives throughout the quarter. (Each checkmark is a deduction of 3 points from a student's weekly conduct grade out of 100. For example, 3 marks in a week would equal a 91 for that week's conduct grade). Certain consequences such as a detention will result in a deduction of points

for the weekly conduct grade. In addition to conduct grades, there are positive and negative consequences that are awarded based on the type of behavior that is shown in school, on an individual and whole class level.

Students who do not receive any checkmarks in a day will go in to the drawing for the VIP title for the following day. I will pick a name the next morning and whoever is chosen will get the title and privileges of being the VIP student for the day. These privileges include: a special seat in the classroom and a bin full of *fabulous* supplies they may use throughout the day.

In general, classroom rules strive to promote a positive learning environment where all students are able to learn, and school rules seek to provide a safe, structured learning environment for all students. Checkmarks will be given for failure to follow classroom rules. The following consequences will apply for classroom offensives and will be determined on a daily basis.

2 Checkmarks – Student sits out 5 minutes of recess

3 Checkmarks – Parents will be notified with a "think sheet" and appropriate consequence will be determined.

4 or more Checkmarks – Detention will be assigned.

Some behaviors may warrant other consequences, depending on the situation (i.e. an apology letter, classroom clean-up, detention, etc.).

We will also have opportunities to earn rewards as a whole class or as learning teams! Class goals will be established periodically throughout the year. If these goals are reached, students may earn extra recess time, lunch with the teacher, or some other privilege at the discretion of the teacher. Students will be divided into groups for certain learning activities.

Homework: The abilities of students are always different. Not every student will spend the same amount of time doing homework. Assignments that are not completed in class are considered homework and should be taken home to complete. Daily assignments are due the following day and should be turned in at the beginning of class. In an effort to help students stay organized, students will track homework on a weekly planner. Please be aware of the recurring assignments:

- Spelling or Vocabulary weekly and test on Friday
 - Social Studies/Religion weekly
- Read 25 minutes a night – this will be an essential part of their grade in the AR program.
 - Math homework assigned daily

Students should not be spending more than 40 minutes a night on homework (aside from 25 minutes of reading). Occasionally students will be required to do a project that will require additional time at home. Parents will be notified of upcoming projects in advance.

Semester Exams: Students will take semester exams in primary content areas (Language arts, math, social studies, science, and religion). Review sheets will be sent home in advance, and class time will be devoted to reviewing material prior to exams. Fall exams are scheduled for December 12-14, and spring exams will be May 22-23.

Grading: We will follow the grading scale as set forth in the SMCS handbook:

A	90%-100%
B	80%-89%
C	75%-79%
D	70%-74%
F	69% or below

Special Activities: As fourth graders, students will be able to participate in several new activities this year.

Choir: Exciting news! 4th grade will be the official school mass choir. We will be singing every Friday and during special holy days in the choir loft during mass as a whole class. Practices will be held during school hours once a week with Mr. Mason. I am so excited about this new opportunity for us and it is a great honor and privilege that we have been asked to have such a vital part in mass this school year!

Altar Servers: Serving at mass is a great privilege as the children grow in their relationship with God. Information will be sent home prior to training. Students who have Altar Served in the past will be able to do so again as well as new students. Students who have received First Holy Communion may participate.

Band: Mr. Bridges will be working with the students in the first few weeks of school to help them choose an appropriate instrument and understand the requirements for participation in band. If a student chooses not to join the band, they will participate in the elementary elective taught by Mrs. Bullock. Throughout the year, we will cover various fun and educational topics that we will decide upon as an elective class.

Service Hours: Following the tradition of SMCS, students in fourth grade are asked to complete service hours as part of their religion grade. Detailed requirements will be sent home along with a log for recording. Please review the procedures as these may be different than in previous years. Also, encourage your child to complete their service early as the deadline tends to sneak up on students.

Mass: Students will attend mass on Friday. Please make an extra effort to be early on these days and be in proper mass attire (no Polo shirts or skorts). Additionally, any students scheduled to Altar serve or lector should arrive early, or they might forfeit being able to serve that day. Since we will be the choir this year, I also ask that we try our hardest to be on time on Fridays mornings so that we may get to the choir loft on time. Please be sure boys wear a tie with their school uniform on mass days. Students will also attend mass on other holy days or special celebrations.

Communication: Parents and students will stay informed of classroom events through the school website (4th grade page) student planners, and the class calendar. All homework and exams are posted on my page at <http://stmarys-temple.org/fourth-grade>. Students will update planners each week with upcoming exams, field trips, or projects. There is time in class for them to do this. I also keep a calendar in the room, right next to the door, for easy viewing by parents.

Attendance: We will follow the SMCS attendance policy. It is the student's responsibility to complete any class work missed as a result of a tardy or absence. If there is a planned absence and the student wants to get the work ahead of time, please give me sufficient notice to prepare any assignments that will be missed. If it was an unplanned absence (illness, etc.), please have your student pick up any missed work before school on the day he/she returns. Arrangements can also be made for work to be taken home by a sibling. Parent conferences can be arranged for extended illness or absences. Please remember that tardies and absences are hard on children and the time missed is difficult to make up.

I appreciate the opportunity to work with your child this year and hope to make this a very successful and enjoyable year. If there are any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me.

Blessings,

Anne Bullock

Contact Information:

Email: abullock@stmarys-temple.org

School Phone: 254-778-8141

PARENT QUESTIONNAIRE

Parent Contact Information:

Name (parent to contact first): _____

Phone number: _____

E-mail: _____

*Is it okay to give the contact information for this parent to the homeroom parent for class planning purposes? Y N

Name: _____

Phone number: _____

E-mail: _____

*Is it okay to give the contact information for this parent to the homeroom parent for class planning purposes? Y N

Does your child have any health problems I should be aware of? (food allergies, etc.)

What special talents, interests, hobbies does your child have?

How does your child feel about school?

What skills would you like to see your child develop this school year?
