

Social/Emotional Development

Students will: demonstrate skills needed for school performance; develop and demonstrate attitudes, behaviors and interpersonal skills to work with and relate to others; demonstrate the ability to solve conflicts in an appropriate manner; develop effective strategies of dealing with peer pressure; identify difficult decisions and explore possible consequences of those decisions. The Second Step Curriculum is the social-emotional program utilized by the staff.

Guidance counselor Lamar Batiste supports classroom teachers in implementing class meetings to discuss well-being and classroom climate.

Enhancement Sessions occur daily at 1:00-1:30. This is a time for students to receive support to reach new skill levels of foundational learning such as math facts through twelve and algorithmic computation, proofreading, cursive, and paragraph structure.

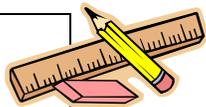
Grade Level district assessments:

Math– Beginning, Mid-year, End-of-year
Writing-End-of-Unit writing samples
Bear’s spelling assessments-Beginning and end-of-year.

Fontas/Pinnell reading assessments
AIMS math and reading tests

Standardized tests:

MCAS (Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System)



Homework

Homework is generally given Monday through Thursday nights. A schedule is sent home Mondays listing the homework due that week. There are daily math and spelling assignments. Our expectation is that, on average, the total time that students should be spending on homework is 30 minutes a night.

How to help at home:

Establish a regular reading time at home. Make time to read and discuss books together. Help your child study for weekly spelling tests.



Help your child learn their multiplication and related division facts. Encourage your child to participate in activities that involve numbers, measurement, and logical thinking skills such as money and purchasing, directions and recipes, and thinking and strategy games.

Encourage your child to pursue interests related to classroom units. Involve your child in map reading, trip planning, and reading highway signs.

Check homework schedules daily to make sure all work is complete, and help your child stay organized by checking to see that the backpack is packed up with completed work and teacher notices, permission slips, etc. for the next school day.



Fourth Grade at Pelham Elementary 2017-2018

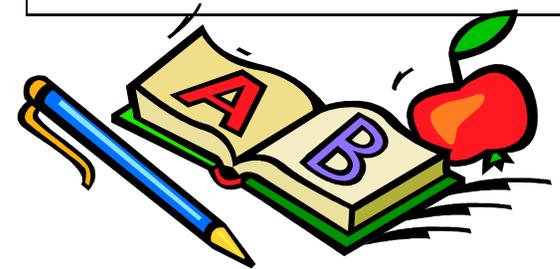
Teacher and Room Information

Classroom Teacher: Tony Shaw
ShawA@arps.org

Other Staff: Brenda Darling

Para-Educators: Beata Ciesielska

This brochure will provide you with information about the key curriculum areas your child will study this year. We hope that you will use this as a guide in supporting your child’s success at school.



Pelham Elementary School

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Math

In Everyday Mathematics, students develop a broad background by learning concepts and skills in six content strands:

1. Number and Numeration
2. Operations and Computation
3. Data and Chance
4. Measurement
5. Geometry
6. Patterns, Functions and Algebra

In Everyday Math you can expect to see...

Problem-solving based on everyday situations; review of topics throughout the year; development of basic skills, often through games; lessons based on activities and discussion; mathematical content that goes beyond basic arithmetic

Language Arts:

In fourth grade students begin to gain a deeper understanding of the purpose and structure of various genres in both reading and writing. Daily mini-lessons reflect unit goals and provide time for students to engage in oral and written text analysis which may include understanding character growth, making judgments about characters and events, and identifying themes. Students sustain silent, independent reading of books that appeal to their interests and are appropriate for their reading level. They continue monitoring their comprehension by using a variety of strategies that lead to higher level thinking skills including inferring, identifying important facts and information, and summarizing. Applying reading strategies to nonfiction text often takes place during social studies and science. Children continue to take steps toward carefully crafting their writing. Students delve deeper into understanding spelling patterns of more complex words, and building vocabulary.

Science:

INQUIRY & ENGINEERING SKILLS:

Students will be able to:

- *Predict, observe, describe and record results of experiments
- *Draw conclusions from the results of experiments
- *Diagram simple electric circuits

UNITS:

- *Electric Circuits
- *Rocks and Minerals
- *Fish Life Cycle
- *Trees and Plants
- *Light and Energy

Social Studies

Mapping: Students work on reading and understanding maps.

Geography: Students learn about the regions, states and capitals of the United States, Mexico, and provinces and cities of Canada.

Economics: Students explore regional differences in natural resources.

Immigration: Students learn what rights new citizens have. They study different immigrant groups.

SAFE Students participate in a fire awareness program sponsored by the Amherst Fire Department.

Art– Mrs. Mattison

Students explore a wide range of art techniques and materials. Skills, concepts and vocabulary are introduced, leading toward creative confidence, visual literacy, multicultural appreciation and a life-long relationship to the world of art.

In fourth grade we:

- *Continue to build skills in all media, including printmaking
- *Keep and artist notebook
- *Develop concepts of space and perspective
- *Begin observational drawing skills
- *Understand the color wheel and why it matters to artists of all kinds

Music– Ms. Arpianinen

In fourth grade general music students experience a diversity of musical styles, genres, cultures, and traditions to promote good vocal technique and develop music skills. Students will learn in depth about the instruments of the orchestra. Students will learn about sea chanteys and the role of music in the historical whaling industry of New England.



Physical Education– Emily Neimann

Fourth graders will be focusing on working together and communicating effectively with one another. Our PE class is excited to give students a place to use their energy while learning how to respect one another and listen to instructions so we can play more complex games. Students will participate in all class games and team building activities during first part of PE sessions where everyone will do the same activity focusing on working together and building a positive class culture. Our all group activities will be followed by a chance to do familiar activities and common sports during choice time. The goal of our time together expose students to new ways to use their bodies and work together while also giving them a chance to develop and deepen their favorite activities so they will carry positive associations with being active regardless of what their areas of interest are.



Computers– Mr. Fanning

In the 4th grade we will continue to develop students' basic skills in their Google accounts. Activities include creating a folder structure in Drive, learning about the major applications: Google Documents, Slides and Sheets. We will also be continuing to develop web site management skills. In their e-Portfolios, students have to manage Home pages, blog pages, and pages in which they publish their proudest accomplishments.

Library– Ms. Booth

Exposure to non-fiction is highlighted especially in the form of biographies, as well as the use of library reference materials, to find information.

Literature

- * Biographies and other non-fiction
- * National award winning books

Library Skills

- * Locating non-fiction books by call number
- * Computer searches for info retrieval
- * Scavenger Hunt – using the library
- * Library vocabulary

