



WELCOME INFORMATION

2020-2021

We are so excited for the privilege to get to know your child and to witness the educational growths that we will make as a class. We promise to be fair, consistent, and enthusiastic in regards to the content that we teach and our interactions with your child. During this first week or so of school we discuss our expectations and procedures for both school and home. It's all about empowering them to do the best they can in all aspects of their lives. All our expectations promote being respectful, responsible, fun to be with, and safe.

Here are a few things about our classrooms that we would like you to be aware of:

CLEANING AND SAFETY: Your child's safety is our #1 concern. We are following all current, PA Dept. of Health Guidelines, while also doing our best to provide a fun and engaging learning environment for the students. We are encouraging hand washing/sanitizing during transitions and are having students maintain 6 feet of distance between each other whenever possible. Student can have their own sanitizer if you would prefer. Students are not using shared supplies and are able to keep their bookbag and water bottles on the floor next to their seat. This allows them to easily access their materials whenever they need. The desks are also rotated, since students do not need to use the inside of it for storage. This helps limit touchable surfaces. Students have done an amazing job with wearing their masks so far, but will need your continued reminder. We are allowing periodic mask breaks throughout the class periods. Between the AM and PM Cohorts, the teachers disinfect all the desks, chairs, and any other touched surfaces. The custodians instantly get to work cleaning all bathrooms and other high touch areas. We all work as a team to make sure everything is clean for the next group of students and repeat the process again at the end of the day.

SCHEDULE & TEACHERS: This year looks a lot different than other years. It may also change as the year continues. Our goal is to set your children up for success no matter what the schedule looks like. Although we will rotate all 4 teachers at times, your child will typically be taught by only one pair of teachers: Mrs. McIntire with Mrs. Wismer or Mr. Hutch with Mr. Pete. Mrs. McIntire and Mr. Hutch teach math and word study and Mr. Pete and Mrs. Wismer teach Language Arts. We will do our best to integrate science and social studies when we can because of the value we see in those subjects, but they are not going to be graded subjects this year.

The homeroom specific schedules are on McKean4th.com, but here is a condensed version:

AM COHORT	SCHEDULE	PM COHORT
8:50-9:00	Homeroom	1:20-1:30
9:00-10:10	Math or Language Arts	1:30-2:40
10:15-11:25	Language Arts or Math	2:45-3:55
11:25-11:30	Dismissal	3:55-4:00

The teachers are the ones who move rooms to teach. The students will stay in their location.

In the other 1/2 of the day, your student MUST be completing their specific Special's assignment and any other tasks the classroom teacher assigns on Seesaw. In addition to the daily Special's assignment, they might be doing independent reading and writing, Stmath, FASTTMath, etc.

Specials' Schedule: (These will be posted in the SPECIAL'S CLASS in Seesaw)

Mon- Health

Tues- Library

Wednesday- Music

Thur-Art

Fri- Phys. Ed

HOMEWORK: We truly want your child to love to be at school and to be proud of his/her success. Students must complete their tasks and homework by the deadlines given. The grading scale is N, S-, S, S+, E "N" means that your child is performing well below the grade-level standards.

"S" means successful grade-level performance

"E" is very rare to receive because it means they are showing success with 5th grade-level standards.

If you have any questions about a Special's assignment, reach out to the Specials teacher directly on Seesaw using your parent app or send them an email:

Health and Phys Ed: lisaroberts@generalmcclane.org

Library: melissabean@generalmcclane.org

Music: diannsmith@generalmcclane.org

Art: emilyrobertson@generalmcclane.org

This year, the classroom teacher will post each day's assignments on Seesaw. Every morning, students are expected to login to Seesaw to view their assignments (They are called Activities or Inbox Announcements in Seesaw). **If you are an AM Cohort student, you will check Seesaw when you come to school in the morning, then do the at-home activities when you get home. If you are a PM Cohort student, you will check Seesaw when you wake up, complete the at-home activities, then come to school for your in-class learning.**

Create a space and time at home for your child to do their homework. If your child isn't good at being independent, don't let them keep failing at it. Please check their work and help them come to school prepared. View the tutorial on McKean4th.com's RESOURCE tab to see how to navigate Seesaw.

iPad and Binder: The iPad should always be kept in the ziplock bag to prevent water spilling on it. It does have a case, but this does not prevent water damage or glass breakage from heavy falls or pressure.

Please make sure the iPad gets charged each night and is close to your child's bookbag. This will help them remember to grab their iPad when grabbing their bookbag. We will send out more info on the iPads soon.

The binders are meant to hold their pencil bag with frequently used supplies, their notebook(s), and any important papers that need looked at. We have stored all extra supplies in a gallon bag in their bookbag for future restocking. Please make sure all supplies come back and forth each day. Students can choose to leave their charging brick and cord at home or keep it in their iPad bag when coming to school.

Any papers that need seen that day, will be located in the IMPORTANT (left) pocket of the binder.
Any papers that can be seen later, will be located in the OTHER (right) pocket of the binder.

DRINKS/MEALS: All students are encouraged to have a water bottle, but it must be brought home each night. **To prevent carpet stains, only clear liquids are allowed.** The school is working on installing bottle filling stations, since all drinking fountains are turned off.

If you would like to order breakfast or lunch for your child, you can order using the School Cafe app up to 30 days in advance. The app is on your student's device, but can also be downloaded on your personal device or accessed online at schoolcafe.com. More info about this service in on the mckean4th.com RESOURCES tab. Your child's 8-digit student ID is listed on the back of their iPad.

COMMUNICATION: Good communication is very important to us. If you haven't, please...



Check out and bookmark our team website: mckean4th.com
(View calendars, spotlighted news, links for learning, and other resources)



Seesaw Class is the app we are using to send and receive work from students. Seesaw Family is the app we are using to have conversations between teachers and parents. You can also access it on a browsers at: app.seesaw.me
You can also call the school: 273-1033 Ext. 4 or email us.
Our emails are listed on mckean4th.com and below:
scotthutchison@generalmclane.org (Math and Word Study)
jamespete@generalmclane.org (Language Arts)
jessicamcintire@generalmclane.org (Math and Word Study)
jackiewismer@generalmclane.org (Language Arts)

BIRTHDAYS: We can not have birthday treats this year, but will still acknowledge your child's birthday with the class and do our best to make them feel special.

CHANGES: You can assist us this year by letting us know if there are any changes in your child's life such as illness of a family member, a new baby, a new parent, separation, death in the family, or anything you feel may affect your child. Sometimes children can be affected by changes more than we realize, and we want to make sure we are being aware and sensitive to those varying situations.

DISCIPLINE: Our school wide behavior plan can be viewed in the student handbook online or by hard copy if requested. If your child is demonstrating a major problem behavior or frequenting minor problem behaviors, we will be sure to communicate that with you and do everything we can to support your child.

CONCERNS: If there is any concern about your child, please let one of us know immediately. Do not allow difficulties to mushroom. Sometimes what seems monumental may, in fact, be just a misunderstanding or a misinterpretation. We can help work anything out.

OTHER: Please watch the **Open House videos** and complete the **Questionnaire** that was sent to you in your Seesaw Inbox:



Working together, we can make fourth grade a happy, successful year. If there is anything we can do to help you or your child, please feel free to contact us at any time. We are truly willing to do whatever it takes to help your child succeed and have an AMAZING year!

Your partners in education,
McKean4th Teachers

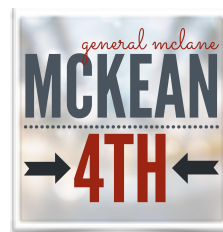
Cut off for the Fridge

4th Grade Contact Info

Attendance Excuses and Dismissal Notes: meattendance@generalmclane.org
McKean Elementary Phone Number: 814-273- 1033 Ext. 4

4th Grade Teachers: 814-273-1033
scotthutchison@generalmclane.org
jamespete@generalmclane.org
jessicamcintire@generalmclane.org
jackiewismer@generalmclane.org

Website: www.mckean4th.com
(Math & Word Study) Ext. 4021
(Language Arts) Ext. 4017
(Math & Word Study) Ext. 4022
(Language Arts) Ext. 4018



Special's Teachers:
Health and Phys. Ed- lisaroberts@generalmclane.org
Library- melissabean@generalmclane.org
Music- diannsmith@generalmclane.org
Art- emilyrobertson@generalmclane.org



You can also
contact ANY of
your child's
teachers directly
in the Seesaw
Family App.