

Welcome to Fourth Grade!

Hi! My name is Miss Thaler, I will be your fourth grade teacher! I want to take some time to introduce myself. In 2012, I graduated from Cal State Sacramento with my Bachelors in Liberal Studies with a concentration in Science. I then went on to obtain my Masters in Education from Hope International University. I taught at Hardy Brown College Prep in San Bernardino for two years. At HBCP I served as lead teacher, common core trainer, and the tutoring coordinator. I love to learn and hope to pass this passion onto my scholars! Now I am a proud Falcon!

I remember when I was in school I always wanted to learn about my teacher's life... so here is a little about me. I am the proud "T" (aunt) of Simon. Caleb, my second nephew will be born in September. I enjoy doing outdoors "stuff" with my family and friends, I love traveling, I like to try new food...I LOVE TO EAT. **Coffee and tea keep me going.** You will often see me with a mug in hand! I hope to learn more about each of you this year!

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School Supplies

One of my main goals is to teach our scholars how to be organized I have chosen specific supplies to ensure we are all on the same page. If you are unable to get your scholars school supplies for any reason please feel free to come to me and we will work it out! Your scholar is responsible for bringing their school supplies **everyday!** These supplies are vital for learning!

1. (4) Composition notebooks (\$0.50 at walmart)
2. Box of pencils (**I will sharpen them daily, and students will trade them in**)
3. 12in. Ruler
4. 1 pack of notebook paper
5. Erasers
6. 1 blue or black pen
7. 1 highlighter
8. 4 Folders
9. Zipper pencil pouch
10. *Tissues
11. *Baby Wipes
12. *Hand Sanitizer
13. *Lined Paper
14. *Glue Sticks (Small pack)

I have bought enough markers and color pencils for everyone. We don't have desks, so I try to keep everything communal. Each scholar will get 1 homework folder and an agenda provided by the school. Anything with a star (*) are things we will use throughout the year. Please feel free to pick up one of these items while you are back to school shopping.

Homework Policy:

I try not to assign a lot of homework. Homework that is assigned is essential for reinforcing skills learned in class. One of the best thing your scholar can do every night is READ. 30 minutes every night will help your scholar immensely! I also recommend your scholar working on Core5. This is an amazing reading program that will fill in the gaps in your scholars reading.

Projects:

I will assign various projects throughout the year. I will give ample time for scholars to complete these projects. They will have time in class, but work will have to be done at home. I will help by providing due dates that break the project into parts. I will also provide clear instructions but as always if you have any questions please feel free to contact me. These are not optional if they are not completed your scholar's grade will suffer.

Classwork:

During the school day we will be completing assignments in our workbooks, notebooks, and on paper. Scholars are required to complete all classwork. I will provide enough time for assignments to be completed, if they are not they will have to complete them at home, and turn it in the next day. I will collect assignments those who do not complete it in the allotted time will be responsible for turning it in on their own.

Expectations:

In my classroom I hold my scholars to a higher standard in everything they do. In academics I expect them to work hard, in behavior I expect them to operate with respect, and in life I expect them to succeed. You will notice I refer to my students as scholars, I do this to remind them who, and what they are. My classroom is full of respect and empty of drama! I will treat each scholar with respect and expect them to do the same for me, and for the other scholars in class. In life we will have to work with people we may not get along with on a personal level, but we still must treat them with respect, and learn to work with them. My class is a family, we will work together, play together, and succeed together.

What can I expect from Miss Thaler?

You can expect:

1. To be treated with respect.
2. A clean and organized classroom.
3. You scholars test and projects graded within a week.
4. Open communication.
5. For your scholar to be valued.
6. Updated grades weekly.
7. A positive attitude.

What does Miss Thaler expect from parents?

1. To be treated with respect.
2. Open communication.
3. Responses to letters or materials sent home.
4. Bringing your scholar to school daily and on time.
5. A positive attitude.

What does Miss Thaler expect from scholars?

1. To be treated with respect.
2. To treat classmates with respect.
3. Open communication and an open mind.
4. To bring materials daily.
5. Hard work.

6. A positive attitude

Behavior Management:

I use Classdojo to keep track of my scholars behavior. This website allows me to give positive and negative points to scholars for specific actions and behaviors. You as the parent, can log on and see how your scholar is doing. There is an app for smartphones that gives you instant notifications. Scholars earn points for behaviors like being respectful, responsible, and positive. I can give a warning which is worth zero points this allows the scholar to correct the behavior before their points are lost. If the behavior is not fixed then they will lose points. Some behaviors do not merit a warning and they will automatically lose points for them. On this site you can also send me messages. Classdojo also allows me to post pictures and videos to our class story. The best thing about this is that only parents, students, and myself can see them. When you log onto the parent account you will not see points, you will see a percentage of positive and negative points. I use these points for rewards and report cards. We all have bad days, there will be days your scholars loses points, but remember tomorrow is a new day!

21st Century Classroom:

This is my first year with a 21st Century Classroom. We will not be using desks and we will focus on collaborative learning. We have options in seating, but I reserve the right to move a scholar at any point if they are distracted or being distracting. We do not have a lot of storage this is why I ask that you only buy what I have asked on the school supply list.

Parent Volunteers:

I love having parents working in my classroom. You must be cleared through the office to do so. Please if you are interested in volunteering let me know!

Signature Page:

I have read the school supply list, homework policy, projects, classwork, expectations, and behavior management portion of this letter. I understand what Miss Thaler expects from me, and what I can expect from her. I understand that at anytime, I can ask her a question to clarify something I am not clear on. I understand that as a team we will succeed. I understand that Miss Thaler expects me to do my best. ***I understand that Miss Thaler is the best teacher, really funny, and I will laugh at all of her jokes!***

By signing this letter I agree to all that is written above...

Parent Name

Parent Signature

Date

Student Name

Student Signature

Date

__Please check that your child does have computer and internet access at home.