

John T. Pirie Fine Arts & Academic Center
Welcome Back to School!!

My name is Mrs. Kile and I am your child's teacher this year in 4th grade. I have worked for Chicago Public Schools for more than twenty years. I hold two Masters Degrees, one in Elementary Educations and the second in Reading. I am a National Board Certified Teacher- Reading Specialist.

Our Pirie Staff is "**Committed to transforming today's learners into tomorrow's Champions!**" Our students are winners because they have lofty goals and they work hard to attain those goals. My students are **Champions** and I have high expectations and goals for each of my students. I expect each of my students not only to attain their personal goal on the NWEA Test but also to meet or exceed the grade level goal in both Reading (217) and Math (214).

In order to accomplish this attainable goal my students need to complete all assignments and homework everyday with 100% accuracy. This means, my students need to pay attention in class, actively participate in discussions, ask questions, do their best work and study for exams. They also need to come to school on time prepared to work, have all assignments and supplies needed.

My students cannot accomplish this goal on their own. They need your help, Parents! Please make sure your child has a quiet well-lit place to complete homework assignments. I will dictate the homework assignments and I expect your child to write the assignments in the planner neatly and correctly. Parents you will need to check your child's homework nightly to ensure they have completed all assignments and understand the work. Once you have checked the work initial the student's homework planner at the bottom of the page each night. Please do not initial the pages in advance of the assignments. Initialing the planner will let me know your child has completed and understands the work. If your child doesn't understand the assignment please initial the planner and write a short note to me letting me know that he/she doesn't understand the assignment and perhaps what you think the misconception about the assignment is, and I will respond to any questions you may have about the assignments. I will also be writing notes to communicate with you in the planner.

Students will need access to the Internet to complete assignments. If you don't have Internet in your home, the public library will allow students to use a computer for homework and research. Smart phones or tablets can access the Internet using your phone carrier. If these two suggestions are not accessible for you, the school has a computer lab, which can be made available to students before school starts with prior notice and approval of Ms. Grady, the principal.

The grading scale is as follows: A- 100-90, B- 89-80, C-79-70, D-69-60, F-59 and below. Grading is broken down by percentages: 35% assessments, 30% classwork, 25% quizzes and 10% homework. I am required to record a minimum of 3 grades weekly in Reading and Math and 2 grades for Science and Social Studies.

Work must be turned in by the due dates. **I do not accept late work, give extensions, nor do I give extra credit work or make up work.** If your child is unable to do an assignment you should write me a note and inform me of why he/she was unable to complete the work. After conferencing with you and your child about the assignment, I will then determine if an extension will be given. Given the grading scale and the weight of the assessments, classwork, quizzes, and homework, one missed assignment may cause your child's grade to drop. Once a grade has dropped it may take multiple passing grades on assignments to bring the grade average back up.

If your child is absent their work will be taped to their desk. They will have 1 day to complete the missed assignments. If your child is absent 2 days then they will have 2 days to complete the assignments, etc.

My expectations for behavior are equally as high for the children. I expect the children to display proper manners at all times. This includes appropriate language and behavior. Each child should follow the Student Code of Conduct, school rules and classroom rules. They must also adhere to the uniform dress code (navy blue pants or skirts, white shirt or blouse, navy blue sweater, and dark color shoes or Gym shoes).

I do not allow handbags, purses, wallets, lip-gloss, perfumes, lotions, nail polish, deodorant, combs, brushes, or any other grooming items in the classroom. Toys, games, or any other items children play with are not allowed in the classroom. If these items are brought to school I will take them and a parent must come to the school to retrieve them. The only items allowed in the classroom are on the supply list. I will occasionally ask for items not on the supply list for some of our school projects, but I will send a note home requesting those items.

If your child needs to have a cell phone at school you must request in writing permission from Ms. Grady to allow the phone at school.

If your child has a key to your home and brings it to school please make sure it is on a secure key ring, lariat, or clipped inside their book bag.

I do not hold or allow money in the classroom unless it is to pay for a fundraiser, field trip, or pictures. Please make sure your child does not bring money to school unless it is requested for the reasons stated above.

If you need to contact me please call the main office and leave a message. All conferences must be scheduled. I am available by appointment before and after school at 8:30 A.M. or 4:00 P.M. I am unable to have conferences that are not scheduled.

I do not sharpen pencils. Please make sure your child comes to school with at least 3 sharpened pencils each day.

I don't allow mechanical pencils, pencil sharpener, pencil boxes, markers of any kind or crayons in the classroom.

Supply List:

The items on this list need to be replaced during the school year when your child needs them.

- 3- packs of pencils- sharpened at home
- 2- packs of coloring pencils
- 1- high lighter (any color)
- 4- packs of loose-leaf paper
- 6- spiral notebooks
- 2 – composition notebooks
- 6 – 2-pocket folders
- 12 – glue sticks
- 1 – pencil bag
- 2 or 3 – Eraser Mate Pens blue or black ink only

Items to donate for community use:

- 4 large boxes of Kleenex
- 3 rolls of paper towels
- 4 containers of disinfecting wipes
- 1 box of gallon size Zip-loc bags
- 1 box of pint size Zip-loc bags
- 3 bottles large size hand sanitizer
- 4 packs of white copy paper
- 8 packs of post-it notes
- 6 packs of index cards
- 2 pack of dry erase markers (multi-colors)

Please sign, detach and return the bottom portion of this letter to Mrs. Kile.

My child and I have read this letter. We understand and will adhere to the guidelines contained in this letter.

Parent's Signature

Date

Student's Signature

Date

Free Out of Uniform Day!

I am giving any student who returns to me all forms signed by September 22, 2016 an out of uniform pass!

This pass will entitle the student to come to school out of uniform one day (to be determined by the class). We will create a theme so the students can create their own special look. Possible themes might include twin day, crazy hat day, mismatch/funny sock day, etc.

Please help your child earn an "Out of Uniform Day". Make sure to sign all of the forms and date them; fill out the Lunch Form with the correct information; and return the forms before the due date.

Forms:

1 - Packet from CPS (Media Consent Form, Internet Usage Form, Health/Allergy Form)

1 - Lunch Form

1 - Welcome Letter from Mrs. Kile

1 - Student Planner

1 - Emergency Contact Form

1 - Discipline Policy

Thank you,
Mrs. Kile