

Welcome to Fourth Grade 2016-2017

In preparation for the upcoming school year, we have prepared a list of skills your child should continue to work on and practice prior to entering fourth grade. Reviewing these skills over the summer will greatly ease your child's transition into fourth grade.

Expectations in Language Arts for Incoming Fourth Graders

Any student entering fourth grade at Marrero Academy **will be expected to:**

- Speak and write using **correct grammar** (nouns, verbs, verb tense, etc.).
- Organize ideas into clear, **complete sentences**.
- Write in a logical **sequence of events**.
- **Read with fluency** and expression using grade appropriate material (**Lexile 660 or higher**).
- Identify main **parts of speech** such as a noun, verb, and adjective.
- Differentiate between various text features, including pictures, charts, graphs and other text features.
- Understand and apply dictionary skills.
- Know and use basic sentence structure (i.e. begin with a capital letter, choose the appropriate ending punctuation mark, etc.).
- When answering all questions, be able to answer both orally and in writing by using complete sentences.

Students are required to write on each reading test (and other subject area tests). Points will be deducted if the above skills are not evident (ex. complete sentences, correct grammar, indent, etc.).

Mathematics Expectations for Incoming Fourth Graders

Any student entering fourth grade at Marrero Academy **will be expected to:**

- **Fluently** add and subtract basic facts without the aid of anything other than mental recall. (Fluently means quickly and accurately knowing/memorizing facts **without counting fingers, using tally marks or applying any other strategy**).
- **Fluently** add and subtract three digit numbers (with and without zeros) using the standard algorithm.
- **Fluently** solve basic multiplication facts in the 0 – 12 times tables **with automaticity** (without the aid of anything other than mental recall).

Why Are These Skills So Important?

These skills are crucial for a student's success in fourth grade. These skills are **foundational skills** that **should be mastered prior to entering fourth grade** because they are extended in the fourth grade curriculum. If students master these skills before entering fourth grade, they will have a much easier time mastering other fourth grade skills. For instance, if students know their basic multiplication facts, they will have a much easier time mastering MANY other fourth grade skills including (but not limited to): multiplying multi-digit numbers using the standard algorithm, division, equivalent fractions, comparing fractions, finding common denominators, and finding factors and multiples.

In addition, a part of each student's **math participation grade** will be based on a **weekly fluency drill in addition, subtraction, and multiplication**, in which students will be expected to complete at least 50 problems within 3-5 minutes.