

September 17, 2009

Dear Fourth Grade Parents,

A heartfelt thank you to all who attended our **Back To School Night** this past Tuesday evening. The appearance of so many parents was extremely gratifying. When parents really care, the kids do great things! For those of you who were unable to attend, be sure to check with your child for the information packet that was given out Tuesday evening.

Our curriculum in math is moving right along. We are working with place value through millions, practicing writing numbers in standard form and expanded form, and using word names. We had our first trial spelling test Wednesday morning. It was a challenge for some; the final Lesson 1 test was given today. Computers began this week for both groups and a sample of student writing was taken with the September prompt about favorite games.

As students receive their work papers back from me, they will be placing them in a "**Work Passed Back**" folder inside the binder. Please take a look at these papers but do not remove them. By mid trimester when Progress Reports are sent home the work papers can be removed. At times we may need to look back at our work papers to verify scores. Tests will be sent home in Thursday Notes envelopes and can remain at home unless one has a parent signature stamp. That paper should come back to me in the same Thursday Notes envelope.

The Accelerated Reading Program began for the 4th graders last week. Each student was given a "reading map" with a designated reading level to begin the year. All students selected an AR book and the reading began!! Students will read daily in class from their AR books and may also read the same book at home. Each fourth grader is expected to earn a minimum of **10 points** per trimester.

Just a gentle reminder of something I stated Tuesday evening. You can reach me through the school phone and I will call you back. You may also contact me by note via your child and I will write back. Email is another way to reach me:
jjoanis@stmikesolympia.org

Thank you in advance for keeping the lines of communication open and running smoothly.

Fondly,

Mrs. Joan Joanis