

## Grade Level Introduction: Fourth Grade 2019-2020



### Teacher Contact Information

#### Mr. Joe Beard

*B.A. – Education, Minors – S/W Indian Cultures, Technology-Aided Instruction*

*M.A. – Language, Reading & Culture – U of A ACSI Professional Certification*

*Endorsements: Structured English Immersion (K-12), Early Childhood (Birth-8 yrs.)*

*Yrs. Teaching @ CCS - 26*

**Email:** [Joeb@casaschristianschool.com](mailto:Joeb@casaschristianschool.com)

**Classroom voicemail:** 878-1302

#### Ms. Hayley Bradley

*B.A.- Elementary Education- Grand Canyon University*

*Endorsements: Structured English Immersion (PreK-12)*

*Casas Alumni, Student Taught 2<sup>nd</sup> grade 2016-2017, Summer F.L.I.G.H.T Instructor 2015-2017*

*Yrs. Teaching @ CCS - 2*

**Email:** [hayleyb@casaschristianschool.com](mailto:hayleyb@casaschristianschool.com)

**Classroom voicemail:** 878-1301

### Grade Level Description

Fourth grade is the first year of upper elementary school making it an exciting step forward in your child's education. It is also the year many parents see great strides in students becoming more independent and responsible in completing homework and classwork. It is our goal to help them attain the organizational skills and study habits needed for future success.

Fourth grade teachers strive to integrate faith, fun and learning using 21st Century Curriculum and differentiation within a student-centered classroom. We focus on providing a rigorous academic program to all students delivered in a positive and safe environment.

Our Bible curriculum covers Fundamentals of the Christian faith and applications to our lives. Students are taught to look at the world through a biblical worldview.

The language arts are taught through literature text sets and the six traits writing components.

The selection of high interest books and materials is an important component of this rigorous program and provides the building blocks for success in future coursework. Through guided reading, whole group instruction, independent reading, teacher read-aloud books and numerous opportunities for students to write in all genres, we deliver a balanced approach to literacy.

Our spelling program is both an individualized system and vocabulary enrichment. Students' lists are customized to their learning needs.

Math is taught using an ability-based program which divides students into two groups, accelerated and regular-paced. The Saxon math program is uniquely designed to spiral new learning into reinforcement of familiar skills to diminish math anxiety and systematically build a solid foundation.

Science is taught with as much "real life" experience as possible. Through investigations, group work, and projects that students explore, the students will learn classification of living things, understanding resources and adaptations, energy and magnetism, changes to earth's surface, the water cycle, inquiry skills and tools, and the scientific method. Students are given multiple opportunities to practice their inquiry skills through in-class projects and participation in the CCS Science Fair with opportunities to advance to the SARSEF science fair.

In social studies, we study Arizona from the time of Spanish exploration through present day, including economic and social issues faced throughout these periods of history. Students often work together on group projects making history come alive. Our fieldtrips to The International Wildlife Museum, Sabino Canyon, Bisbee Copper Queen mine and town museum, and the AZ Historical Society Museum are closely correlated to our study of Arizona history.

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In the computer lab, we use Learning.com and students learn digital citizenship, as well as skills that will allow them to succeed in the 21<sup>st</sup>-century world of technology. These skills include typing skills, word processing, power point presentations and research skills.

Our goal is to make fourth grade a rigorous, yet exciting year, filled with activities that build enthusiasm for the love of learning through fun, precisely planned curricular activities. We end the year with our exciting Fourth Grade Annual "Campout" where students get to experience camping (the first time for some) in the safety of our lunchroom. Teachers, parents and students come together for a fun-filled evening of games, food, s'mores and campfire. It has proved to be the highlight of the year!

## Grade Level Resources

**Bible:** ACSI Bible curriculum

**Reading/Language Arts/Writing:**

Novel literature unit text sets

Abeka Language 2

Six traits writing program

**Math:** Saxon Intermediate 5

**Science: Fusion – Houghton Mifflin**

Foss Science Kits

**Social Studies:** Harcourt Arizona

Daily Geography

## Special Events & Field Trips

International Wildlife Museum

Sabino Canyon

AZ Historical Society Museum

Bisbee Copper Queen Mine/Museum

Famous Person Breakfast

4th Grade Annual "Camp Out"

## Grade Level Weighting

### Math:

In class and  
Homework 20%  
Quiz 30%  
Tests 50%

### Grammar:

Class work 25%  
Homework 20%  
Tests 50%

### Social Studies:

Classwork and  
Projects 30%  
Tests 70%

### Reading:

Class work 30%  
Reading Log 20%  
Assessments 50%

### Bible:

Spiritual Journal 15%  
Memory Verse 35%  
Tests 50%

### Science:

Classwork 40%  
Tests 60%

## Elementary Report Card Weighting

<u>Subject</u>	<u>Weight</u>
Bible	1.0
Math	1.0
Math Facts	0.33
Reading	1.0
Grammar	1.0
Spelling	0.4
Science	1.0
Social Studies	1.0
Art	0.2
Music	0.2
PE	0.4
Spanish	0.4
Acc. Math	1.3