



Dear Parents,

Summer, 2020

Welcome to Grade 4 at Seneca Academy! Fourth grade is a year in which students share many positive learning experiences as they become more independent and take on additional responsibilities. I am excited to begin another year at Seneca Academy and look forward to having your child in my class. I know this will be a year of learning, growth, friendship-building, and discovery. I cannot wait to get started!

I look forward to meeting you at the Parent Before-School Conference on Monday, August 31. Please sign up at <https://www.senecaacademy.org/4signup>. During this time together, we will begin the process of cultivating a parent-teacher partnership. I will share information regarding your child's first day, carpool drop-off, and the upcoming school year that are important to know before our Back-to-School Night in September. In addition, this will be an important opportunity for you to ask questions and share information about your child with me (interests, goals, concerns, insights, etc.). Although I prefer to meet with you in-person, remote conferencing will be available for anyone who cannot meet on campus. Please note that the school calendar is available on the website.

Your child's first day of school is on **Tuesday, September 1**, from 8:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m., with carpool drop-off starting at 8:15 a.m. During this meet-and-greet opportunity for students, I will have a variety of activities throughout the morning to acclimate your child to a new classroom community. Prior to our noon dismissal, the children and I will have a bring-your-own-bag lunch picnic together in the backyard.

The first full day of school will be **Wednesday, September 2**, with carpool starting at 8:15 a.m. Please begin sending in a snack that is quick to eat (such as a piece of fruit, vegetable sticks, granola bars, or cheese stick) and a lunch. We ask that students bring TWO filled, reusable water bottles each day in order to decrease the need for refills. Please do not send sodas or candy for snack or lunch.

The fourth grade supply list is available at: <https://www.senecaacademy.org/back-to-school>. Please bring these supplies to the Before-School Conference on August 31 in a bag with your child's name on it. In addition, students will need the following **labeled** with their name:

- Reusable masks/face coverings, at least two recommended
- Backpack or tote bag (non-rolling, washable) - large enough for lunch box and a folder
- Lunch box or bento box (one that can open flat and/or be directly eaten out of by students is easiest to use)
- Art smock - an old adult shirt with the sleeves cut works well
- Reusable water bottles, two recommended (filled daily)

For summer reading, students are required to read *Pie* by Sarah Weeks. This title is also available as an audiobook, which would be a fine option for students. Please encourage your child to read all summer long!

There will be a Summer Social for fourth and fifth grade students and their families on **Tuesday, August 18**, from 2:00 – 3:00 p.m. SAPA will be sending out more information about this later in the summer. I will not be there, but this is a great time to meet new friends and catch up with old ones!

I am looking forward to seeing you all soon.

Sincerely,

*Cathy Lawler*