



Dear New Fourth Grader:

I am really excited for what I truly believe will be your best year yet at Central. I am Mr. Elman and will be your teacher this year. I am so looking forward to starting a great school year and to seeing both you and your parents on the 5th. I hope you are as eager about starting fourth grade as I am to be your teacher.

I know that in just a couple of weeks I will have the chance to get to know you better so I thought I would tell you just a few things about me first. I am married to someone most of you know (hint: think about Central School's office). I have two kids, Michael and Madeline (who is also a teacher). Ozzie, our 7 year old Australian Labradoodle is the final member of my family and keeps us quite busy. I spent my summer: taking long bike rides with Mrs. Elman, doing some hiking, playing outside with Ozzie, and enjoying some really good books (I hope you did too!). The highlights of my summer were riding bikes across the ENTIRE state of Iowa with Mrs. Elman, the concerts we went to, and the family time I got to spend with my kids while at a lake cottage in Wisconsin for a long weekend. I had a wonderful and relaxing summer and hope you did too!

Our school year will be filled with a lot of fun and challenging subjects to learn and study. Just a few of these are: innovations, land and water interaction, inventors, electricity, multiplication, problem solving, ecosystems and a whole lot more. Our reading and writing will cover a variety of genres, including both fiction and non-fiction. Of course now that you are in fourth grade we will be going on our Outdoor Ed trip in the beginning of December; this is both an INCREDIBLE and AWESOME experience where you will learn in nature while you nurture your friendships!

I fully expect our year to be filled with: wonderful friendships, a tremendous amount of learning, substantial brain-growth, a big boost to your self-confidence, terrific experiences, a lot of hard work and perseverance, and always giving our very best effort. If we consistently work hard together throughout the year, you will be amazed at the progress you will make in fourth grade. Enjoy the rest of your summer. Get psyched, I am!

I can't wait to see you, and for the start of our year together.

Mr. Elman