



It's hard to believe that September is already over. Class 4 has had a wonderful start to the new school year. The students returned excited and ready to pick up where they left off in June. The class 4 team (Dave, Cindi, Tracey and I) are all excited as well as we see so much potential in all of our students.

This year, as like last year, the focus for the 2016/2017 school year will be communication. That is not to the exclusion of other disciplines but communication will be part of all that we do. We have a variety of students at different levels in communication. Some of our students are low-tech users and some high-tech users. We will be busy immersing the class using everything at our disposal to help them develop their communication skills as well as social skills. As stated in my letter home at the beginning of September, our door is always open. Please stop, call or write at any time. It's great to have an open line for communication.



Class 4 News

From a previous newsletter but is worth repeating

Augmentative Immersion

Typically developing children hear 4000-6000 words per day for about a year and we are all thrilled to hear that first word. If we could visually see the words that come out of our mouths, we would be swimming in an endless ocean of words. Our children are learning a language that is not only auditory but very visual. It is our belief that we need to fill their environment with the symbols of their language so they can be "immersed" much like a child whose language is learned via the spoken word. If we can immerse them in this way, it will help them to develop their communication skills.

Make It Fun!

Belonging, friendships, and student success

Friendships are the biggest predictor of a student's liking of and enjoyment of school and their achievement over the school year, regardless of whether the student believed school is important. (Ryan, 2003)
One of our goals in class 4 is for our students to develop friendships with their peers. We spend a lot of time focusing on communication not just with adults but amongst peers as well.



October 10
October 27
October 28

Thanksgiving
Halloween Funday
PA Day (no school)