

Third Grade Newsletter

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☺ *Important Dates in September* ☺

-Parent Teacher Conference: September 22nd

Reading	Building a Reading Life In September, students are getting back into the routines of Reading Workshop. The goal of this unit is for the children to know themselves as readers, and collect the skills they need for reading success. In this unit, they will become familiar with how to respond to their books, which books they like to read the best, as well as, how to question what they are reading. As they read, they will be looking for themes, character traits, character relationships, and cause & effect. Please ensure that the children are reading for 30 minutes per night, and responding to their books for at least half a page.
Writing	Crafting True Stories Students will start the Third Grade by pulling seed moments from their real life in order to create narrative stories. From these small ideas they will recall special people, memories, special places, or events; they will then use these ideas to create a narrative that truly happened. The goal of this unit is for students to call upon their own life for inspiration in their writing. Aid your child in their writing by discussing family memories they can use in Writing Workshop.
Math	Students will be reviewing strategies for addition and subtractions. They will solve word problems using models, pictures and writing equations. During this month with will be estimating sums, differences and rounding to nearest tens and hundreds. At home, practice basic addition and subtractions facts and review math vocabulary.
Science	Students will be exploring properties of matter as the first science unit. They will learn about solids, liquids and gases and how they change from one state to another. Students will learn concepts and vocabulary through reading complex text. At home, ask your child what they are learning in science.
Social Studies	Maps and Geography: Third graders will start off the year by exploring how a map's characteristics, as well as, a country's geography effects the lives of the people within it. The students will explore how the features of a map can tell us a lot about a country due to the hemisphere it lays in, the continent it is a part of, and the oceans it neighbors. They will also explore how keys and symbols on a map can reveal information about a country's economy, climate and people. Through their exploration of maps, they will then begin to question how life is different as you move from continent to continent. Encourage students to research different maps online.

