



Third Grade Newsletter
September

Hello Parents,

School is back in session and we have hit the ground running! As we continue to get acquainted with one another, the third grade team wanted to share some third grade policies, procedures, and news.

- **Daily Communication**-Your child is to bring home his/her planner (once we get them) each day. This is one way we will communicate with you regarding your child's behavior, as well as pass along other notes of importance. Students should be writing down assignments each day in their planners. Please be sure you review this each night with your child. Weekly work folders will be sent home with a place for your signature as well.
- **P.E.**-Please make sure that your child dresses appropriately on P.E. day. This includes wearing comfortable clothes and shoes.
- **Spelling**- Students will be assessed using a program called Words Their Way, which is a developmental spelling, phonics, and vocabulary program. Based on assessment results, students will be given a set of words each week to study in order to discover their common attributes. Your child's teacher will give you specifics as to what needs to be done with the words over the week for homework. More details about the Words Their Way program will be shared at our Open House.
- **Math**-We have started our year off with the math program called enVisionMATH 2.0 which was implemented last year. Based on a placement test that was given last week as well as other forms of data, students will be placed in a math group that best meets his/her needs. Students will change classes in math to work on acceleration, review, and extension activities during Math Workshop beginning September 10th. Math homework is given to review concepts taught in class and will not be given just for busy work. Our math curriculum is packed in 3rd grade; therefore, it is imperative that each child not only shows, but practices to ensure mastery of each needed skill.



- **Literacy**-To best meet the needs of all students, we will continue to implement Balanced Literacy. This is a CMS requirement that contains several components. Balanced literacy is designed to help all students learn to read and write

effectively. It contains the following components: *Read Aloud, Shared Reading, Guided Reading, Conferring, Independent Reading, Word Study, Shared Writing, Interactive Writing, and Sharing/Reflection*. All of these components will be implemented daily in your child's literacy instruction to best meet the needs of all levels of readers. We will also focus on referring back to text to find information, visualizing when reading, and making inferences.

- **Social Studies and Science**-Students will alternate social studies and science units. The following standards will be taught over the month of September in science and social studies:
 - Students will understand the structure and properties of matter before and after they undergo a change. We have also begun reviewing the scientific method.
 - Students will understand that the values and beliefs of a specific culture create diversity and will explore the idea that global cultures are diverse, creating varied perspectives, contributions, and challenges.

Nightly Reading-Your child should be reading a minimum of 30 minutes each evening as part of his/her nightly homework. Please be sure that your child is writing the name of the book they are reading, as well as the page numbers read in his/her planner or Reading Record each night.

Important Dates- Please mark the following important dates on your calendar for this month:

- 11 - RRR Pledge Cards Sent Home
- 11 – Room Parent Training (9:30am)
- 12 – Early Release Day (11:45am)
- 13 - Curriculum Night/PTA Meeting (6:15 pm)
- 13 - BOG's
- 19 - TEACHER WORKDAY
- 21 – PTA Board Chair Breakfast(9:00 am)
- 26 – Children's Theatre-3rd grade (9:45 am)
- 28 - RRR Pledges Due
- 28 - Character Ed Assembly (8:45 am)
- 28 - Mid-Quarter Progress Reports

We are looking forward to a wonderful year at Selwyn. We enjoy working together as a team and we hope that you will join our efforts. We look forward to seeing each of you on Thursday, September 13, for Open House.

Your Partners in Education,
Mrs. Brownlow, Mrs. Chalfant, Ms. Dillard,
Mrs. McDonald, Ms. Smyth, and Mrs. Williams

