

Third Grade Newsletter

Ms. Beltran - 3-301
Mrs. Roby & Mrs. McKenna - 3-303
Mrs. Duffy - 3-305
Mrs. Moreno - 3-307



Math News

Our classes are moving on to early multiplication and division. We will begin by gaining an understanding of equal groups and exploring different strategies to find the total of the equal groups. For example, 4 groups of 6 is a total of 24 ($4 \times 6 = 24$). Some strategies that we will be exploring are repeated addition ($3+3+3+3=12$), skip counting (3,6,9,12), and doubling ($6+6=12$).

Reading News

This unit of study will engage your child to think more deeply about the characters in their books as well as the characters they meet in our classroom read aloud. How much we love a character affects how much we love a book. It is the characters in their books that make the children want to read more.

As they read more they will begin to understand their characters by what the characters say and how they act. Readers think what is my character like? They will grow theories about their characters and use these theories to make predictions about their character.

The children will also be using thinking maps and story mountains to keep track of their characters' journey through the books they are reading. Finally, they will compare characters, noticing similarities and differences.

This is an exciting next step in the reading lives of children. Please encourage them to read every night and talk about the characters in their books.

Social Studies News

We've landed in Europe! We began our country study by looking closely at the geography of Greece. We're now moving on and studying the Greek culture, specifically with a focus on ancient Greek art. The children are going to become experts on this topic by watching videos and reading lots of articles! Ask your child to tell you about the things they are learning!

Writing News

We published our information pieces and have now moved onto our baby literary essays. During the month of February, the third graders will be writing baby literary essays. We begin this unit with a 'boot camp' where we all write an essay together. This helps the students to become familiar with how to structure and organize an essay. The children will then try writing an essay on their own, mirroring what we did together. In their essay, they should create a clear thesis and support their thesis about characters by using evidence from the text. Students will closely examine character traits or ideas they have from the text to provide details or evidence that support their opinions. Lastly, the students should include a conclusion that restates their opinion and leaves the reader with a thought or comment related to their opinion.

Important Information:

Midwinter Recess February 20-24, 2017

NYS English Language Arts Exam-March 28-30, 2017

NYS Math Exams- May 2-4, 2017