



## Welcome Back!

### 3rd Grade Newsletter

Third grade is an incredible year. Our overall focus is on building independence and accountability. As the school year begins we are setting up routines and listing expectations. Our expectations are high and we are confident your children will work rigorously to achieve the most from third grade.

#### Reading

September's focus during reading will be to use strategies that will build the stamina children need to read for longer periods of time. We will discuss routines and expectations for learning and when reading. Finally, we will focus on motivating the children to read long and strong by understanding how good readers feel, look and sound. We encourage a continued practice of their reading habits at school and at home with you. Please allow them to read every day for 15 minutes and ask students to tell you what they learned or what the main idea is.

#### Writing

Writing is very special in third grade. Students use special notebooks to gather their thoughts/ideas so that all their great thinking has a place to be remembered forever. Students plant seeds in their notebooks and explore them so they can think carefully about what topics they want to write more about. Students get their ideas from life experiences so that their writing is meaningful to them. Most importantly students need to see themselves as good writers in order to independently work to their maximum potential throughout the year.

#### Math

The first part of September will be review. It will also be a time for your child to get to know the materials they will work with this year during math. Later in the month we will focus on the Meaning of Multiplication. Students will use counters to model equal groups. Record an addition sentence and a multiplication sentence.

#### Social Studies/Science

In Social Studies, students will focus their learning by drawing on information from local historic sites, historical societies and museums. Students will learn about the history of Massachusetts. They will also learn about their own city and about famous people/events throughout Massachusetts history.

	<p>In Science, these are just a few of the topics being covered: weather patterns, life cycles, and magnets.</p>