

## “Meet the Teacher” Night September Newsletter – Grade Three



**Literacy** remains a major focus at this grade level. In the classroom, we spend ninety minutes each day working on the skills children need to read independently, with fluency and comprehension. Along with **daily reading instruction**, **word work** lessons are incorporated into our daily literacy routine.

Our teaching team is working collaboratively again this year and children have been placed in flexible groupings focusing on: reading instruction, word work, and math skills.

**Writer's Workshop** is a second focus area. Again, we work with our students to build stamina in writing independently. A great deal of modeling occurs with this topic, as we work towards the following elements: choosing a topic and sticking with it; ensuring the writing pieces have distinct beginnings, middles and endings with supporting detail; incorporating descriptive words; correct spelling of commonly used words; using the conventions of capitalization and end punctuation.

**Math** is the third major focus. By the end of the year, students are expected to know their facts to twenty (“snap finger”... no counting!) and to use this knowledge when working with larger numbers. This includes the facts below twenty as well, such as  $14 + 4$ . Doubles ( $1 + 1$ ,  $10 + 10$ ) are also an expectation, as are adding and subtracting twenty, skip counting up and down by 2, 5 and 10. In the beginning, we rely heavily on manipulatives, and as skills develop we encourage mental and paper and pencil calculation. As the year goes on, we build on these skill areas to do word problems as well as triple-digit addition and subtraction.

Instead of “You and Your World” like in k-2, Grade Three students will explore topics in Social Studies, Science and Personal Wellness. Character education is also an on-going focus that blends in nicely with Personal Wellness.

**Specialty subjects:** Art is on Fridays with Mrs. Trainor, Music is on Mondays with Ms. Perry, Physical Education is on Wednesdays and Thursdays with Mr. Arsenault and Mr. Lean. Library is on Tuesdays and Computers are on Fridays.

**Playground supervision** begins at 8:10 every morning, and students are dismissed at 1:40 by the parking lot door.

Please note that toys are not permitted at school.

Please continue to listen to our voice mails and check your child's agenda for any notes or forms that need to be filled out. **Please sign your child's agenda each day.**

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us... a note in the agenda is a good place to start, as these are checked daily.

We have had a great start to the year, and look forward to working with your children!

Cordially yours,

**Elementary Teachers**