

# 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade February Newsletter

Dear Parents,

Our students have gotten off to a great start in 2016! We have included an overview of what we will be learning this month. As always, please do not hesitate to reach out to your child's teacher with any questions or comments.

Sincerely,

The Third Grade Teachers

## **Reading**

Readers are fully immersed in our *Connecting Character, Culture and Community* unit. Our anchor text, *The Year of Miss Agnes*, has enabled students to use text-based evidence to draw conclusions, identify main ideas and key details. Throughout the unit, lessons have focused on our essential questions: How does a character's environment and culture impact behavior? How does a character's dialogue and actions impact the course of events in a narrative?

## **Writing**

Writers are working on realistic fiction narratives. We have been incorporating dialogue, to show character responses, event sequence, using linking words, and providing a sense of closure.

## **Math**

Mathematicians will be learning about comparing and ordering fractions. Especially important are the friendly fractions of halves, thirds, fourths, sixths and eighths. As always, have your children continue to work on memorizing the multiplication tables. It is important that they know them backwards and forwards. This will help make solving problems much easier, especially as they head into 4<sup>th</sup> grade. Students should also work on breaking down multi-step problems.

## **Social Studies**

Third grade historians are embarking on a journey into Asia learning how culture, history, geography, people and government shape their communities.

## **Science**

Scientists are finishing up the energy unit. Looking ahead, we will learn about simple machines through informational text and hands on activities. For extra practice log on to [www.edheads.org](http://www.edheads.org).

## **Important Dates**

February 8<sup>th</sup>- No School - Lunar New Year

February 9<sup>th</sup>- Field Trip to Kupferberg

February 15<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup> - No School - Mid-Winter Recess

February 27<sup>th</sup> - Saturday Academy Begins

March 3<sup>rd</sup>- Parent Teacher Conferences