



3rd Grade Newsletter-February

Dear Parents,

Our students have gotten off to a great start in 2018! 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 are 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 4th grade. Students should also work on breaking down multi-step problems.

Social Studies

Third grade historians are enjoying their journey through China, while learning how culture, history, geography, people and government shape China's communities.

Science/STEM

Scientists are hard at work on the energy unit. Our next STEM project will be designing and building an insulator. Looking ahead, we will learn about simple machines through informational text and hands on activities.

Project Arts Residency

We have begun our exciting residency, "Dance on Broadway!" Each class will perform a tune from a famous Broadway musical. Our culminating event will be on March 28th. More information to follow as we get closer to the performance.

Important Dates

February 9-Fun Friday

February 16th-School closed in observance of the Lunar New Year

February 19-23rd - School Closed for Mid-Winter Recess

March 14th-Trip to Marathon Playhouse to see "The Wizard of Oz"

March 15th - Parent Teacher Conferences - $\frac{1}{2}$ day of school.