

Welcome to Third Grade

Back to School Night

September 19, 2011

Mrs. Andresen's Aces

It is my pleasure to welcome you and your child to an exciting year in Third Grade! The following outlines some procedures and policies in our class:

1. **Arrival** - The first bell rings at 8:25 AM. It is important that the children are on the playground and lined up at the sound of the first bell.
2. **Absences** - If your child is going to be absent from school please call the school in the morning. A note must be sent in with your child on the day she/he returns to school.
3. **Homework** is very important to practice skills or to give your child an opportunity to extend what was taught in the classroom. Homework is assigned every day. There may be a few occasions where your child will have a project that will require homework in addition to the "My Reading Life" homework on the weekend. It is your student's responsibility to write down the assignment in his/her assignment book, and put the homework page in her/his homework folder. Please initial the bottom page of the assignment book so that I know you have seen it and sign the homework. This way your child recognizes that we are all working together. Homework should be completed in pencil only. Homework not completed is done at gym or recess. Any communication from the school or me will be placed in the homework folder. Please bring the homework folder, assignment book and the "My Reading Life" folder to school each day. Any questions or concerns you have may be written on the current page in the assignment book, or write me a note and put it in the folder.
4. **Flash Cards** - Please practice math facts with your student for 5 to 10 minutes every day to achieve proficiency. Students are expected to learn facts by memory! Practice on www.playkidsgames.com also!
5. **Snack** - The students get very hungry by 10:00 and eat a small snack during Writers' Workshop. The items they have been bringing are great!
6. **Shoe Safety** - Please send your child to school wearing sturdy shoes that are appropriate for our active day. No flip flops, please! Thanks!
7. **Website** - Class news and upcoming events will be posted on the Third Grade page of the school website.
8. **Birthdays** - A time to celebrate! If you wish to send in a small treat for your child's birthday, please let me know a few days in advance. Please send in whatever is needed for the treat, such as napkins, plates, spoons, etc.

9. **Parent involvement** - Please sign up to be a room parent to help with parties, our holidays around the world activities, and field trips. Also, please sign up to visit our class and give a presentation about your job, hobby, talent, culture, etc. We will connect it to the topics we are learning in the classroom. Bring your lunch and join us for Lunch Bunch! We will rotate the day of the week for our monthly get together.
10. **Behavior Rewards** - We are all trying to earn our daily chip worth 10 points for good behavior. Accumulated points equate to a Behavior Grade on the student's report card. When a student earns a chip each day for the whole week, she/he is rewarded with Fun Friday! This could be an extra recess, ice cream party, pizza party, movie party, etc. Please sign up if you can donate a reward.
11. **Donations to help our class** - What we need the most is antibacterial hand wipes. Whatever you can send is always appreciated. Our supply is good right now, but come the winter months with cold and flu season we will need more.
12. **Read to your child every night, in addition to the independent reading your student is doing at home**, even for just 15 minutes at bedtime. Ask your child questions about the reading. Have your student summarize the chapter/story. What happened at the beginning, middle, and end? Who are the characters? What is the setting? What is the problem in the story? What is the solution to the problem? Have your student connect to the story. How would I feel if this happened to me? What would I do in this situation, etc. What do I already know about this topic? What do I picture in my mind while I am reading? *This is what we do in the classroom and practicing at home will get your child into the habit of reading for understanding.* It is time well spent, as you encourage a love of reading in your young reader.

Thank you for being so dedicated to your children. They are a joy! I am really looking forward to a wonderful school year. We are off to a fantastic start! Your help and support are deeply appreciated. Thanks so much!

Please feel free to contact me anytime with questions or concerns. I can be reached at 995-4349, extension, 21, or email, milfordandresenb@yahoo.com

Third Grade is spectacular!