

Third Grade News

October 2018

Our Classroom in Review

Reader's Workshop

We are beginning our second unit of study, *Following Characters into Meaning*. While reading Because of Winn-Dixie, we will focus on the characters in our fictional books. When readers view their characters as friends, readers are able to connect with their books and boost their comprehension and understanding.

Writer's Workshop

In the next few weeks, we will become authors of spooky Halloween stories and begin writing personal narratives.

Science

We have been learning about SQUIRRELS! Specifically, we have been learning about organisms needs for survival, structures that allow the organism to survive and organism relationships within their environment. Next, we will be focusing on animal adaptations through time.

Math Workshop

We finished our math unit Understanding Equal Groups focusing on multiplication and division. We will be using the next few days focusing on memorizing multiplication facts (0, 1, 2, 5 & 10). Our next unit will focus on graphs, data and measurement.

Notes from the Teacher

Dear Families:

If you did not know already, our specials schedule changed from last year which allows for more time in the classroom. At first, I struggled to find appropriate activities that extended the curriculum. After a few days of brainstorming, I decided the best way to extend the curriculum was to allow the students to **PLAY!**

A few years ago, I read the book Purposeful Play by Kristine Mraz. Mraz explains that play offers students to practice and develop *empathy, flexibility, resilience, persistence and optimism*. As you watch and listen to a small group of children build a tower, you can identify all five of these ideas.

Play is POWERFUL and it should be included in the daily lives of every student and child. © It's okay to just play.

Thank you,
Andy Palma

Upcoming Events

- Ella Atkinson's Birthday – 10/05
- Lena Byrom's Birthday – 10/05
- Leah Van Den Brink – 10/09
- PTC Meeting – 10/9 @ 6:30pm to 7:30pm
- Half Day – 10/12
- Conferences – 10/16 & 10/18
- No School – 10/19
- Popcorn Day – 10/26
- Fall Harvest Party – 10/26 @ 6:00pm to 7:30pm
- Halloween Party – 10/31 @ 2:15pm

Questions?

Please, if you have any question, comment or concern, contact me!

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Learning at Home

By the end of third grade, we expect every third grader to memorize their multiplication facts 0 through 10.

Now that every student has a firm understanding of multiplication and division as equal groups, feel free to begin memorizing those facts. I suggest focusing on easy facts first and help your child develop confidence. If needed, focus on 5 or 6 facts a week to memorize.

There are many resources out there to use. Dollar Tree always has multiplication fact flash cards. Also, check out the app store on your phone or tablet for free multiplication fact flash cards.