

# This Week in Third Grade...

**Math:** Students did quite a fabulous job on their very first mid-module math test! This week we will be continuing our fact fluency of both multiplication as well as division. Students will be modeling word problems with tape diagrams, relating multiplication and division and working hard to understand the distributive property of multiplication. As always, students will practice their math facts with a partner at the beginning of every math class and a timed test will be given! So far, we are moving right along with our multiplication facts. This is excellent to see!

**Reading:** Last week, students completed their guided reading books with me. We have been working incredibly hard on understanding main idea and detail and answering "how" and "why" questions using a nonfiction text. This week, students will be working in their guided reading groups to learn about a person of interest as we study the biography genre. Students will continue reading their own selected biography of choice as well as engaging in our guided reading independent activity routines as a class! We will end our third week of main idea by engaging in a Harriet Tubman reader's theatre activity. I enjoy reader's theatre for many reasons as it brings out the personalities of the classroom and helps students to focus on fluency and expression whilst reading.

**In addition to Reader's Workshop,** we will continue our read-aloud entitled **Fish in a Tree**. Students will continue to respond to writing prompts in their journals. Last week we focused extensively on character analysis and figurative language. Students will also begin to learn vocabulary words that are used throughout the book! Next week, students will begin their analysis of character project which we will discuss at length at the end of this week.

**Writing:** Students will continue writing their first draft of their Memoir Piece to be put in a collection of memoirs pieces at the end of this unit. This week, our mini workshops will focus on showing versus telling, how to properly punctuate dialogue and where to use dialogue in our pieces. We will end with a "strong ending" workshop on Thursday and students will begin the revision process on Friday.

**Science:** We will be ending our ecosystem unit this week. Students will be focusing on the water cycle tomorrow. In addition, we will be working on our Beechwood Cubes to prepare for the upcoming field trip to Beechwood Farms. We will be diving into our Social Studies Unit which focuses on learning the continents and the oceans, the discovery of the Americas and our class will engage in lessons related to the history of Pittsburgh.

**Grammar:** Students will take a grammar text on Thursday that reviews the four sentence types, subject and predicate, compound subject and compound predicate, compound and simple sentence. This week, we will be engaging and exploring complex sentences through a creative writing project!

## Third Grade Power Team

### Ms. Amoscato's News

Dear Parents,

I hope everyone has had a relaxing weekend! We had another fabulous week in our third grade classroom.

Just a reminder that agenda books should be signed every night! In addition, please make sure your child is practicing their spelling words and math facts! Currently, everyone has started learning their multiplication facts. I am trying a new multiplication program this year known as Otter-box. This particular program slowly scaffolds the multiplication skills so that students are constantly being tested on the facts they already know. Students are to practice saying their facts out loud. This way, they are hearing, seeing and writing their facts to allow for quicker mastery. I am working on placing flashcards on my website so that students can practice their facts depending on what level they are on in the classroom!

Our first field trip will take place this Tuesday at Beechwood Farms! My fingers are crossed for excellent weather! Students do need to bring a brown bag lunch to this field trip!

Warmly,

### Upcoming Tests

Friday: Spelling Test

Thursday: Grammar Test

### IMPORTANT NOTES!

- \* \*A reminder that students should be studying their multiplication facts!
- \* \* Students should be reviewing their spelling words every night!
- \* \* Students need a brown bagged lunch this Tuesday!