

# All About Third Grade!

Mrs. Gardner~2021-2022

## The Academy



Welcome to third grade at **The Academy!** I am thrilled to be your child's teacher this year! Together, we can help each child reach their full potential as third grade learners, both socially and academically. I can't wait to see each child grow as readers, writers, spellers, mathematicians, scientists and historians! Please keep this packet as a reference throughout the school year.

### General Information:

- Our day begins at 8:00 am and ends at 3:15. **Attendance and punctuality are a must!** Breakfast is served until 8:00. Instruction begins at 8:10, so if your child eats breakfast at school, please make sure they are here in time to eat before 8:10am.
- Please send a small, healthy snack daily for your child that can be eaten in a timely manner. (No soda, candy or popcorn!)
- Students may bring a water bottle to drink throughout the day. Please label water bottles with student's name. These need to be taken home daily. (Water only, please!!)
- Lunch – Please do not send microwaveable meals.
- Toys are not allowed at school! They will be taken and placed in our June box until the end of the year, or until a parent comes to get the item.
- Please do not send manual pencil sharpeners to school.

- Please do not send birthday invitations unless all students are invited. Please mail all others.
- All money sent to school for lunch, field trips, etc. should be in an envelope with child's name.

## **Curriculum: (The big ideas we will study this year)**

**Math:** Place value, Addition, Subtraction, Multiplication, Division, Problem Solving, Measurement, Time, Money, Fractions, Data (Charts and Graphs) and Geometry and Problem Solving

## **Reading – Third grade standards for ELA**

- Use multiple reading and word attack strategies to become a fluent reader with a deep understanding of various texts
- Grow as a reader using the CAFÉ menu strategies (Comprehension, Accuracy (reading the words), Fluency, and Expanding Vocabulary)
- Using graphic organizers to deepen understanding of text (fiction and non-fiction)
- Using text features effectively
- Responding to reading through extended response writing

## **Language Arts:**

**Writing** – Personal Narratives, Descriptive writing, writing to persuade or inform, writing extended responses to reading passages, poetry and text-dependent analysis writing

**Word Study** – Short vowels, long vowels, prefixes, suffixes, nouns, verbs, adverbs, adjectives, conjunctions, compound words, contractions, synonyms, antonyms, homophones. Etc

**Cursive Writing** – This will begin the 2<sup>nd</sup> 9 weeks.

**Science** – Environments and Habitats, Earth Materials, Matter, Electricity, Magnetism

**World Geography** – (We will be using the Geography Weekly Newspapers.)

Map Skills and Earth's Features, Environment and People, Culture and Economy, Exploration and Migration

**Technology** – Students will be issued computers to use daily at school and at home. We will use Seesaw for many of our activities each day in class, so please make sure their computers are charged nightly before returning to school. They will have homework on Seesaw some nights as well, so please check this daily. I will communicate to parents using this platform too. Other programs we will be using are Razz Kids, IXL and Dreambox Learning (to come later). All log in info will need to stay in the student's 3 ring binder.

## **Grading Policy:**

It's a huge adjustment to move from E's, S's, and N's to letter grades in 3<sup>rd</sup> grade for students and parents. Please keep in mind that 3<sup>rd</sup> grade is going to involve more commitment at school and at home. We have many tested standards to master, therefore, this requires that every child pay attention at all times, focus and complete assignments, and have a positive attitude!

## **Grading Scale:**

A = 90-100

B = 80-89

C = 70-79

D= 60-69

F = 59 and below

## **Classroom Rules:**

1. Listen and pay attention.
2. Raise your hand to share.
3. Stay seated during instruction.
4. Be respectful of everyone.
5. Stay on task. Complete classwork.
6. Walk in a straight, quiet line.
7. Follow all procedures.

## **Consequences:**

Think About It! – 5 minutes off recess

Teacher's Choice – 10 minutes off recess

Oh No, Stop! – Parent Contact (note or phone call)

\*\*If a student clips down below the chart, they will be sent to the office with a behavior incident report.

## **Class Behavior Clip Chart:**

We will use a clip chart to track behavior each day and to motivate positive behavior in our classroom. See the attached sheet that explains this method in detail.

## **Behavior Incentives:**

- On Fridays, each child that has not clipped down more than one time, will get a reward from the treat jar.
- A student of the month will be chosen each month. This will be based on effort, behavior, work habits, showing good character, etc. The student of the month will be displayed in the class newsletter and will receive a reward.

- Marble Jar - The class will be given marbles for every compliment they receive from any teacher at The Academy. When the jar is full, the class will receive a party.
- Team Points – Each team will be given points when they are caught working well together or making smart choices. The team with the most points at the end of each week will receive a small prize.

## **Communication:**

Communication between teacher and parent is crucial to academic and overall success of each student. Please check homework notebooks daily to review homework and behavior. Green communication folders go home on Wednesdays. Graded work as well as school-wide hand-outs will be included. Please sign the top paper of the graded work, so I know it has been seen by a parent, and return to school the next day. A class newsletter will be updated throughout the year to keep you informed of what we are studying, accomplishments, etc.

Also, I will send home Scholastic book orders throughout the year. This is a great way to get your children excited about reading! Checks should be made payable to Scholastic Book Clubs.

If you need to contact me you can do so in several ways. My school email address is [kgardner@chester.k12.sc.us](mailto:kgardner@chester.k12.sc.us). My cell # is 803-519-7149. You can also call the school office and leave a message for me to call you, or send me a written note in your child's homework binder. **It is school policy that teachers do not communicate to parents through any form of social media.** This includes Facebook messaging.

## **Homework:**

- Homework notebooks will come home daily. Please initial the behavior clip chart sheet each day. Homework will usually be given Monday through

Thursday, and will include Word Study, Math, and reading 15 minutes each night/Reading Log for homework. Studying for tests will also be required on some nights. There will be no homework on Fridays, unless a project is due.

- Reading logs will be kept in Homework Notebooks. They should be filled in and signed Mondays–Thursdays of each week. Reading is vital to student growth, so please encourage your child to read as much as possible! Books can be read independently and with a parent’s help. The more they read and are read to, the better readers they will become!! We will begin with reading 15 minutes each night and expand to 20 minutes in the 2<sup>nd</sup> nine weeks. The Book It program will start in October.
- If a child does not do their homework, or a part of it, they will need to clip down to think about it on the behavior chart.