

3RD GRADE ORIENTATION

June 2024

AGENDA

- The 3rd grade core team
- Understanding the transition from Godwin to Highland
- Curriculum
- SEL and Mindfulness
- Technology
- Responsibilities of a 3rd grader
- Parent Role
- Points of Emphasis
- Having a plan for expectations

3RD GRADE TEAM

THE CORE TEAM

- Ms. Maimone
- Mrs. Hirsch
- Mrs. Guarini
- Mrs. Mont
- Mrs. Ackerman (Sp. Ed)
- Ms. Brislin (Sp. Ed)

Other Teachers that Support the Core classes

- Ms. Tamburri
- Mrs. Boufford
- Mrs. O'Hara
- Mrs. Kilgore
- Mrs. LePage
- Mrs. O'Connors
- Dr. Inirio
- The Specials Teachers

TRANSITIONING FROM 2ND TO 3RD GRADE:

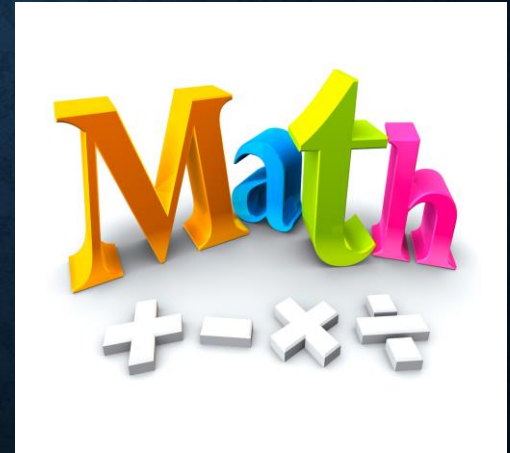
THINGS TO KEEP IN MIND BEFORE WE START .

- **Your children will be OK**
- Every year we reflect on what we do and try to make the transition easier and easier
- We have a professional, highly competent staff that not only teach knowledge and thinking skills, but are concerned about every student's emotional and physical well being.
- We have Mrs. Scala, and other teachers (Mrs. Boufford, Mrs. Greenberg, and Specials) working with the 3rd grade who have experience with your child.
- Articulation meetings are held by the 2nd & 3rd grade staff to discuss students individually. This helps familiarize our staff with new students. This years is scheudled for June 17th in Godwin Room 100

- But it is still a transition, and we do have expectations for students that are different than Godwin.
- State Testing, i.e.; the NJSLA test in ELA and Math and Science (5th grade)
- We have a goal to ready students incrementally for the demands of MPHS. How do we ensure age appropriate readiness?
 - **3rd grade = self contained:** 1 teacher teaches all subjects. Very intimate because teachers only have around 17-19 students. No transitioning between core subjects.
 - **4th grade = Teamed approach:** The grade level is split between 2 teams. Students switch for ELA or Math and then the HR teacher instructs on S.S. and Science as well. Case load is typically 40 students.
 - **5th grade = Teamed subject focus:** The grade level is split between 2 teams. Students switch for ELA or Math and also switch for Science and Social Studies in 6 week increments. There is a dedicated Math/Science teacher and a dedicated ELA/Social Studies Teacher. Case load is typically 40 students. This ensures more specialization in subject matter.
 - **6th grade = Departmentalized:** Separate ELA, Math, Science, Social Studies teachers. Also have marking period specials and electives. Students do not travel by HR anymore.

3RD GRADE MATH CURRICULUM

- Practice Addition/Subtraction Facts over summer
- Overview of the 'CRA' approach to math
 - *Concrete- manipulatives*
 - *Representational (Iconic)-pictures*
 - *Abstract- numbers and letters*
- Math Application to real life
- Word Problems (focus)
- Formative assessment (focus)
- Textbook vs resources



LANGUAGE ARTS / READING

- Science of Reading (What is it?)
 - Phonemic awareness, phonics, vocabulary, fluency, and comprehension
- New Grammer Program (year 3)
- New Vocabulary Program (year 1)
- Foundations (with differentiation) (year 2)
- Looking at spelling and vocabulary program for next year
- Re-enforced classroom libraries
- Reading is encouraged all the time, should be done nightly (parents can read to their children!)
 - *Reading is one of the most reliable indicators of student success*
 - *There is summer reading to be found on the website eventually*



SOCIAL STUDIES AND SCIENCE

- Social Studies
 - Maps and globes, American History I
- Science
 - Force and Motion, Weather, climate, life cycles, electricity, magnets.



SEL AND MINDFULNESS

SEL:

- *What it means to be human; empathy, having goals, service, gratitude, social connections, etc.*

Mindfulness:

- *Students learn to be present and in the moment*
- *Simple meditation that allows students to build coping mechanisms, relieve anxiety, stay focused, and build up the frontal cortex of the brain.*

TECHNOLOGY

We will have 'No
Screen Days' in
school next year.

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- Smartboards in all classrooms



RESPONSIBILITIES OF A 3RD GRADER

- Increased Independence
- Absenteeism will effect them
- Homework Expectations
- Classwork Expectations
- Study / Organizational Skills
- More self control– no touching and language



WHAT DO I HAVE TO DO AS A PARENT?

- Please care about your child's education- make it a priority.
- Talk to your kids about school, but keep it in perspective- be positive.
- Supply lists will be posted on line. Materials can also be ordered through the PTA. Information will be sent home.
- There are Summer Reading and Math assignments which will be posted on-line and emailed to parents.
- Complete registration- should have received an e-mail to re-register. Any questions contact the main office. This will not go away. Ms. Callesano is just doing her job. Every time a student transitions to a new school in district residency forms must follow. (ex. Mrs. Tarleton)
- Mentor letters to be received over the summer, hopefully students will reach out to each other. If not, do not worry ---day 1 they will be paired and will not miss a beat.
- Beware of cell phones and video games. PLEASE.
- Get involved, join the PTA, go to meetings, etc.
- Help, but do not over-help (ex. Tying shoes)

POINTS OF EMPHASIS

- Technology:
 - Chromebooks, online programs, Smartboards
- Code of Conduct:
 - If there is an issue I will call you. I physically cannot call everytime a child is in my office when I am talking to them.
 - Big Consequence or hysterical I will call
 - Many different ways of remediating
- Absenteeism / Tardiness
 - Letters and Remediations (this is part of education)
- Lunch and Recess- no snack time (but we have ice cream)
- Report Cards- we are back to hard copy and also online still.
- Your children should know their phone numbers
- Independence; Shoe tying, bicycle riding, homework.

POINTS OF EMPHASIS (CONT)

- Schedule for Next Year
 - *8 specials, 5 core classes, SEL---* to be mailed around August 15th .
- Enrichment:
 - *All students get push in enrichment.*
 - *10% get Pull out enrichment (Mrs. O'Connors)*
- Remediation's as needed:
 - I and RS and BSI and ELL (English Language Learners)
- Opening Day for Next Year: (you will get a letter in August with this information)
 - How and when to drop off?
 - Do not drop off in front of the school, must be in the municipal lot/ after 8am.
 - Where to line up?
 - Playground Parking Lot.
- ***Online Re-registration + forms to be submitted to main office
- Other neat tidbits:
 - Maker Space/STEM Lab, Flex seating, Outdoor Classroom, Mentor program, Kiln Room, Intergenerational Program

POINTS OF EMPHASIS (CONT)

- Student lunch is at 11:30am. Please have students eat breakfast as we do not do a formal snack time in 3rd grade.
- Birthdays are celebrated with fun activities that the students get to choose. No birthday food is given out. We do have holiday/EOY parties.
- For early dismissal or late arrivals please contact the main office. IF the teacher is out they will not get your email.
- Report cards contain grades. A 'C' is satisfactory. We want A's and B's but a 'C' is not alarming. (D's and F's are alarming).
- Power School for Grade 3 is not a live grade book (that happens in 5th grade). The APP that shows a grade may be inaccurate.

HERE IS WHAT WE LEARNED FROM THIS YEAR.

- Behavior and performance
- What projects are their potential
- Giving
- Not listening
- Doing
- Distracted

Here is what they are good at:

- They can communicate like little adults
- They are way more aware of social issues and bullying, being mean and what is mean.
- They are way more accepting of differences
- They are native technologists
- They know a lot of stuff

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FLEX SEATING



BERGEN COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

- We are the top of the mountain when it comes to educating our children – over 133,000 students in Bergen County.
- It is rigorous at times, there are high expectations, not just in Highland, but across the county and state.
- We have to keep everything in perspective – student well being is the priority from our stand point and I am sure from parent standpoint as well.
 - What are our expectations?
 - What is your philosophy?
 - What is the plan?

Questions?