

Third Grade Newsletter

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September and October 2018

Literacy

Reading: This month, students will continue to build strong habits that will set the year up for success. In the classroom, we are working towards building a reading life. Living a reading life means:

- ★ Reading proficiently, accurately, and fluently with books of their choice that they can develop and share ideas about to show their thinking to others.
- ★ Goal-setting and reading consistently are keys to owning and growing reading lives.
- ★ Strong readers have fix-up and self-monitoring strategies to ensure that reading is always the best that it can be.
- ★ Collaboration and building ideas among a community of readers deepens understanding of a text that can be built on evidence.
- ★ Learning important comprehension skills such as: envisioning, predicting, and retelling/summarizing.

Writing: This month, students will continue to develop their skills as independent writers. They have set personal writing goals and are crafting true stories about their lives based on small, special moments. In order to become strong, independent writers, students

- ★ Push themselves to write more, with greater stamina, and with close attention to craft and conventions.
- ★ Look to authors, such as Karen Hesse, for specific strategies that could be beneficial to use in their writing.
- ★ Use a “storytellers” voice, rather than summarizing while writing, in order to give their readers a mental image of each small detail that happened.
- ★ Write many true stories and then choose one to develop outside of their writer’s notebook.

Math

This year we will be using Investigations curriculum which will engage our students in rigorous, hands-on problem solving.

Social Studies

Our first unit of study is World Geography. Our focus is why geography matters. In this unit, students will:

- ★ Be able to identify continents and oceans using globes or maps.
- ★ Use map features and cardinal directions to interpret various map resources.
- ★ Explore an understanding of how physical features and climate support human settlement.
- ★ Examine how communities adapt to their environment to meet their needs
- ★ Understand various elements of culture such as traditions, religious beliefs, and holidays to name a few. This understanding will be the foundation we need before we go into depth on our first country study of China.

Social-Emotional Learning

- ★ We have adapted the Responsive Classroom approach. One way this will look in our classrooms is through hosting morning meetings and closing circles as well as having students buddy-up to share and reflect.
- ★ PS 33 is proud to be partnered with a wonderful and powerful Social-Emotional Learning Curriculum called Choose Love Movement. We reinforce our mission with supplemental materials from Riley's Way and Sanford Harmony.
- ★ This month we will be focusing on "Compassion in Action." Please visit the following link and help join the movement!: [Choose Love](#).
- ★ Optional conversation starters and activities that families can use to practice Choose Love skills and concepts at home:
 - "To me, compassion is..."
 - "I show compassion at school by..."
 - "I show compassion at home by..."
 - "I show compassion in my community by..."

Save the Date!

10/5 Learn With Your Child Day

10/8 Columbus Day, School Closed

10/25 Picture Day

10/26 Falloween After School

10/31 1st Marking Period Ends

