

SECOND QUARTER OVERVIEW OF THIRD GRADE CURRICULUM

Library - Mrs. Stratman

Students will continue to use the OPAC (computer catalog) to locate books using title, author and subject searches. The arrangement of the Fiction section of the Media Center and how to locate books using a fiction call number will be introduced.

Spanish - Mrs. Willmott

We will continue to work on learning the months in Spanish and how to say when your birthday is, plus how to ask another when his/her birthday is. We will learn about Spanish names for family members. We will talk about Our Lady of Guadalupe, whose feast day is December 12th.

Music - Mrs. Lubbers

During second quarter students will be able to:

Sing alone and with others, a varied repertoire of music including traditional holiday songs and rounds.

Create expressive movement

Use American sign language to interpret at least one complete song.

Read, write and perform rhythm patterns using basic notes and rests (quarter, half, dotted half and eighth)

Distinguish between beats in sets of two and beats in sets of three

Perform simple melodies on the treble clef staff

Sightsing using low, do, mi, sol, la and high do sol-fege

Expand knowledge of recorder playing and other classroom instruments

Watch for information about the annual Christmas Program to be presented by the third grade on December 9th, 7:00 p.m.

P.E. – Mrs. Wooten/Mr. Schumacher

In Physical Education, students have finished a flag football unit. Beginning the second quarter, students will be learning volleyball skills and strategies which will enable them to play lead-up games. Students will finish the second quarter by participating in a variety of simple, cooperative games of low organization that include: racquet play, long and short jump ropes, jumpbands and fitness stations.

Computers - Mrs. Piechoski

In the second quarter, students will be focusing on **Internet Safety** and **Word Processing**. While studying Internet safety, you should ask your child if he/she knows your house rules for using the Internet and what the rules are here at school. You will find that many of our rules are the same!

For Word Processing, students use Microsoft Word. They will type a page header which includes their first and last name, class code (3A, 3B, 3C) and express themselves through the use of sentences, paragraphs, and graphics. They will be introduced to spell check. Technical tips to be taught include the use of the Right Mouse Click, Escape key, Copy & Paste (Ctrl+V), and other keyboard shortcuts!

Math

We will explore money concepts of equivalency, making change, and addition and subtraction with monetary amounts. The focus on time will include being able to tell time to the nearest hour, half hour, quarter hour, and minute. We will also explore a.m. and p.m. concepts as well as problem solving with elapsed time. We will begin to introduce multiplication facts which should be reviewed and practiced at home.

Religion

We will continue to emphasize the four marks of the church, utilizing the elements in each lesson outlined in the first curriculum review. We will also continue developing our understanding of the sacraments of initiation, healing and service.

Handwriting

We continue to work on lowercase letters in cursive. Please do not allow children to write in cursive unless a practice sheet is sent home.

Science

The second quarter will continue the study of life science: plants and animals. We will study ecosystems, food chains, and how animals compete for the things they need. We will also discuss how living things have adaptations which help them survive. Note taking, vocabulary words, and open book tests will be emphasized for the next quarter.

Social Studies

We will continue our study of Native American groups before moving on to the immigration movement of Europeans coming to the United States. We will start with a brief history about the very early colonies starting with the Pilgrims, the study of westward expansion and early settlements. We will continue to learn new map skills as related to each chapter.

Art - Mrs. Morine

During the second quarter, third graders will continue to explore how line, shape, and color can be used to express ideas in their art work. Students recently completed a contour line drawing of their shoe. This quarter the element of space will be introduced to them as they will create a landscape drawing that shows foreground, middle ground, and background. They will learn that things that are farther away appear smaller and less clear, while objects in the foreground are larger and more clear because they are closest to the viewer. Using these techniques will make their artwork have a three dimensional quality.

Reading

Skills to review:

- compare/contrast
- important/unimportant information
- using dictionaries and encyclopedias
- antonyms/synonyms
- context clues - vocabulary, story elements, character, setting and plot

New Skills:

- main idea/supporting ideas
- summarizing
- making inferences
- using a diagram or map
- multiple meaning of words to build vocabulary skills

Spelling

We will continue to review phonics skills such as ending consonant clusters, vowels other than long or short, rules for adding suffixes such as -ed, -ing. We will begin working in a vocabulary book that emphasizes meaning of words as well as Spelling. **Good spelling in all daily work is expected.**

English/Grammar

Continue work on nouns:

- common/proper
- singular/plural
- possessive

Mechanics:

- commas in a series of words
- quotation marks
- capitalization and punctuation

Introduce:

- combining sentences
- action verbs: past and present tense

Paragraph writing and letter writing will continue to be practiced.