

Welcome to Third Grade!

Dear Parents, Guardians, and Families,

Welcome back to another exciting and important year for your child. We've been working hard these past three days at getting to know each other, and all has gone exceptionally well! There are a few things I would like you to know about our class:

- We *strongly* follow the school discipline policy.
- HOMEWORK—I give homework every night, Monday through Thursday, until the last week of school. The daily assignment is posted on the board. *Students* are responsible for making sure they have the *correct assignment* in their Homework Notebooks (which are provided), the *correct worksheets* in their Homework Folder, and the *correct books* in their backpacks. Homework is due first thing the next morning. If a student does not have their homework they will lose their recess for that day so that they can make it up. If your child has trouble with a homework assignment, please send me a note so I can go over it with them.
- Reading Logs are completed every night. Children are asked to read for 20 to 30 minutes. This can be done independently or with an adult.

- A parent/guardian needs to sign their child's homework notebook and initial their homework worksheets *after* they have checked his/her homework to make sure it has been *completed* using their *best* effort.
- If a student fails to complete a class work assignment, he/she should take it home to be completed that night or can stay after school to complete it.
- If your child is absent, please contact the office at (508) 979-4058 and send a note to school with your child the next day for my attendance records.
- If your child is tardy, they must *first* report to the office and get a tardy slip before coming to class.
- The students have developed their own list of classroom rules. You will see the "Class Constitution" when you visit our class at Open House. Each student has signed his or her name to ensure accountability.
- The Behavior management system that I use is based on rewarding the children for positive behavior and demonstrating the high expectations of respect, cooperation, and good citizenship. Each child has his/her own name card with 4 color cards behind it. Everyone starts their day on green symbolizing that they are ready to start their day. If a child is *not* demonstrating positive behavior, then they change their card to yellow which means they need to slow down and think. If a

child continues to engage in an inappropriate behavior, the card will be changed again and part of their recess will be lost. If it is changed a third time, then they will lose all of their recess and/or I will call home to discuss how we can work on their behavior and what might be causing it.

- When a child stays on green all day, he/she will earn a stamp on his/her behavior chart. When the chart is *full*, he/she may cash it in for a prize, extra computer time, or a "no homework" pass.
- Behavior Reflection forms will be sent home if an incident should occur during the day that involves your child. These are to be read, signed, and returned.
- There will be a Spelling Test and a Reading Story Test or "Fresh Reads" Assessment each week. Math, Science, and Social Studies quizzes and tests will be given at checkpoints and at the completion of a topic or unit of study.
- This folder will go home every Friday containing your child's work. Please look over the papers, remove them, and sign the Friday Folder record sheet. No corrected papers will go home during the week except for failed papers (or papers below 70%), which need to be returned with your signature.
- There will be a Behavior Progress Report in the front of your child's homework folder (in the fastened section).

It will be colored in according to your child's behavior for each day.

- I will also send home a *monthly* Class Newsletter. Be sure to check it for upcoming events, projects, and class happenings. A testing schedule for the following week will go home every Friday. Attached to it you will find the Spelling Words and the Reading Vocabulary Words for the tests that week.

Please feel free to stop in and visit our class any time. If you have any questions, comments, concerns, or suggestions please don't hesitate to contact me. Thanks!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Jennifer Castelo

Please cut on the dotted line. Then, sign and return the bottom signed portion of this letter to school with your child.

I have read the 2011-2012 Grade 3 *Welcome Letter*.

Student
Signature _____

Parent
Signature _____