

# Welcome to Third Grade

Dear 3rd Grade Families,

We hope you had an enjoyable summer break and are ready for a great year together. We are thrilled to get to know your children and dig into the curriculum with them. Below is an overview of what your child will be learning this year.

**English Language Arts** - Students will read a variety of topics across fiction, non-fiction and poetry genres, with a focus on increasing their ability to read aloud with fluency and comprehension. They will begin to work independently on writing projects, and make their writing more sophisticated and meaningful. Students will become aware of the importance of the conventions of language.

**Math** - Students will continue to build their concept of numbers, developing a better understanding of place value. They will learn the concepts behind multiplication and division and apply problem-solving skills and strategies for multiplying and dividing numbers up through 100 to solve word problems. Students will also make connections between the concept of the area of a rectangle and multiplication and addition of whole numbers.

**Social Studies** - Students will explore the origins of American Democracy as well as the lives of prominent Americans who have been important in ensuring our rights. In addition, 3rd graders will continue to acquire basic map skills and economic concepts.

**Science** - Science in third grade is active; the students will learn science by doing science. They will observe and compare objects and use the information they obtain to answer their own questions. Students will specifically explore: the nature of science, rocks, minerals, soils and fossils, the habitats of Georgia, pollution and conservation, and heat. All of these units will be integrated through our STEM program.

**Specials** – This year's specials include: PE, Art, Music, Computer Lab, and STEM Lab. Specials teachers periodically send out newsletters to keep parents updated about their programs. We will send home specials schedules (and post to our websites) as soon as possible.

**IMPORTANT NOTES** - Please make sure your child has appropriate outerwear and shoes for recess and PE. Though our days are warm, the building can be chilly, so your child may want to bring a sweater or light jacket. **Dismissal changes require a note to your teacher during homeroom in the morning.** If you have a last minute dismissal change, please call the office to ensure that the message will be received. (*Please do not email dismissal changes.*)

We are excited to get to know the students and look forward to a fabulous year together!

Thank you for all your support,

The 3rd Grade Team