



Third Grade



Parent and Student Information

RELIGION:

* To help us create and sustain a positive school culture, OLP is participating in the "I AM NOTICED" program this year.

*Our school theme is "*Be the ROCK in your RIPPLE!*"

*Our Third Grade goals are to know and live our faith.

*To help us meet our goals, we use the religion series, Be My Disciples. It offers on line resources and activities that you can use at home at www.bemydisciples.com to help the children learn and discover more about their faith.

MATH:

*Our math series, Math Connects, has online resources that you can use at home! The web address is www.macmillanmh.com and is listed on the first page of every lesson. The following are some of the resources that you can find at the Math Connects website:

Student Works Plus Online provides an online textbook:

* The access code to use the textbook is: **D6CE9B95B9**

*This is a wonderful resource if your child forgets his/her math book or doesn't want to carry it to and from school. A real voice will read the lesson aloud too!

Personal Tutor provides audio and video instructions for every lesson.

Fact Dash is a resource to practice basic facts every day.

Games are available to play to help reinforce skills in a fun and challenging way.

SCIENCE AND SOCIAL STUDIES:

*Our third grade focus in social studies is communities. For science we will take a general science approach to discovering our world. We will have Science and Social Studies lessons one chapter at a time rotating between the two subjects.

INDEPENDENT READING

Besides increasing reading ability, independent reading is one of the best ways to improve grammar, spelling, writing and creativity!

LIBRARY—The children have library time/class every week. Each week they need to check out three library books—two AR books at their assigned level(s) and one free choice book.

ACCELERATED READING (AR) — Our third grade reading goal is to read for meaning and enjoyment! With this in mind, our class participates in the **Accelerated Reader** Program.

Accelerated Reader (AR) is a reading program where children increase their reading ability by selecting and reading chapter and non-fiction books at their independent reading levels.

Children demonstrate reading comprehension by passing computer generated comprehension quizzes and advance in their ability as they move from one level to the next. To start the year, everyone begins at the blue level (third grade level). Once blue level AR quizzes are passed with 93 to 100 percent reading comprehension accuracy, students may move to the next level and so on.

We have AR reading and testing time at school every day. Also, everyone needs to take an AR book home every day to read for 15 or more minutes. The children can read only one AR book at a time, starting with an AR book on their assigned level(s).

Every time your child takes an AR test, an AR report is sent home. Everyone is expected to earn 10 or more AR points per quarter with an average of 85% or more reading comprehension accuracy. Children can meet this goal by reading to earn a little more than one AR point per week. That's two short or one longer chapter book per week.

Please encourage your children to read carefully for meaning. AR reading is averaged in as a part of your child's reading grade. Students receive one grade for accuracy (average percent correct) and one grade for points earned (10 or more is 100%). The total AR averages are added to the reading grade at the end of each quarter.

For more information about the AR reading program, you can visit the school library page on the OLP Website. You should be able to find information there about how to check AR reading progress from home and how to get email alerts whenever your child takes an AR test.

HOME FOLDER

*Your child's home folder is RED. It needs to go home every night and come back to school every morning! Please check your child's home folder regularly for keep at home and return to school papers! Home folders are a great way to keep in touch with what's going on at school!

PLANNER

*Your child's planner needs to go home and come back to school every day. Students copy their homework assignments and other important information into their planners. They will need to use this information to get their homework done correctly and completely.

*The planners are checked and initialed by the teacher before they go home to indicate that the homework information is correct. Parents need to initial their child's planner every night to indicate that the homework is complete and carefully done.

*Planners are great way to communicate about what's happening at school. Besides homework and other information that the children write into their planners, parents and teachers can jot a note in the planner whenever additional communication is needed.

* Please remember to **initial the planner every day** as the students will receive rewards for this daily task. Planners are checked each morning for parent signatures or initials. (An unsigned or missing planner is considered a missing assignment. This will result in your child walking one reminder thinking lap(s) during morning recess.)

HOMEWORK

*Your child should have approximately 30 minutes of homework a night, not including daily independent reading. Students should remember to practice the "4 C's" when doing their homework. All work needs to be **C**orrect, **C**omplete, **C**areful and **C**reative! Examples of homework may include:

Weekly Spelling Contract
Reinforce or practice skills taught at school
Complete unfinished work
Practice basic facts

Study for tests
Work on Projects
Daily Independent Reading
Daily Religion chapter pages review

GRADES—Grades will be in letter form using the following percentages:

A+ 100	B+ 92	C+ 83	D+ 73	U 67 and below
A 94-99	B 85-91	C 75-82	D 70-72	
A- 93	B- 84	C- 74	D- 68-69	

SPECIAL CLASSES

Music	P.E.	Art
Computer Lab	Spanish	Library

LUNCH/RECESS:

Lunch--11:30-12:00 AM Recess--11:00-11:30 PM Recess—2:40-3:00

DISCIPLINE POWER AND TEAM BUILDING

We use the following strategies to help develop responsibility, cooperation, and self-esteem:

- Participate in the "I am Noticed @OLP" Program
- Practice Disciple Power Traits
- Participate in Bullying Prevention Program
- Follow Class Rules
- Earn *Good Behavior Compliments* for Class Parties
- Earn Tickets for Prizes
- Walk Reminder Thinking Laps

REMINDERS

- * Children need 10 to 12 hours of sleep every night in order to think and learn, to grow and be healthy, and to be happy and get along with others. Please help your children get to bed on time!
- *To help the children to prepare for the day, they may come to the classroom as early as 7:45.
- *The children may bring water bottles with attached/closeable lids.
- *The children may bring healthy snacks to school for snack time.
- * If you ever need anything, we are here for you!

Let's work together to have a great year!

Linda Van Becelaere, Valerie Rhodes, and Brigid Oberkrom