



Third Grade Triumphs

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PS 221Q
North Hills School

Principal: Patricia Bullard
Assist. Principal: Karen Strauzer

We are on the web:
PS221Q.org



READING

UNIT 2 (continued):

LOOK AND LISTEN

- Students will continue to focus on strategies to improve comprehension, and to increase reading stamina.
- Students will read a variety of non-fiction texts including biographies, and informational books that teach about animals and the arts.
- Students will use graphics and text features when they write about their reading.

Help your child:

- Ask your child to describe for you the different text features found in non-fiction texts, and explain their purpose.



WRITING

UNIT: OPINION WRITING

- Students will brainstorm topics that they have opinions about.
- Students will practice formulating thesis statements.
- Third grade will complete an opinion piece where they will state a thesis and support it with reasons and examples.

Help your child: Have a fun family "debate" at home to help your child learn to support his/her opinions.



SOCIAL STUDIES

UNIT: World Geography and Culture

- Students will explore how communities adapt to their environment.
- Students will see how environments can be modified to fit the needs of the community.

Help your child:

- Pay attention to physical features in your own environment or in environments you visit.



MATH

UNIT: DIVISION

- Relate division to subtraction.
- Relate multiplication and division.
- Explore division rules and properties.

Help Your Child:

- Students still need to master the times tables from 1-10. Use flash cards to practice at home.



SANFORD HARMONY

In November we will focus on empathy and critical thinking.

MUSIC – MRS. GLEMBOSKI

In 3rd Grade Music, students are continuing their studies of the recorder. We are focusing on improving our technique while playing the notes B, A and G. You can help your child by encouraging them to practice daily for 5-10 minutes and signing their Recorder Practice Log each week. Make sure they are pressing their fingers tightly over the holes and using their tongue to make the sound “Tu” into their recorder with their lips closed over the tip of the mouthpiece. This is done instead of “blowing” in order to produce a clean, beautiful tone with space between every note. Please visit our music website at:

<http://mrsglemboskismusicroom.weebly.com/>



Computers-Mr. Caniano

Our third graders will be focusing on code this month, especially during the first week of December which is Computer Science For All Week. We will start by working with two important websites: *Code.org* and *Scratch*. Our students will review basic concepts such as sequence, debugging, and loops and also work with conditionals. In addition, we will also use Scratch to create animations and basic games. Please encourage your child to use Scratch and to log into Code.org Course D while at home.

ART-Ms. Pecoraro

The students will create original paintings inspired by the work of Artist Alexander Calder.

Supporting the Arts at Home:

Take a nature walk and discover all of the organic shapes found outside. These curvy, natural shapes can be found in leaves, trees, pumpkins, clouds, puddles, etc.

SAVE THE DATE: Family Art Night is scheduled for Thursday January 24, 2019.



Physical Education – Mr. Stewart

Part of our health related fitness studies we learned about the RPE Scale. Students understand the importance of a “talk test” and knowing how much we exert ourselves during activity. We will continue to focus on the 6 skill components of fitness: Agility, Speed, Balance, Coordination, Power, and Reaction Time. Students will be working in various stations designed to increase their cognitive and physical abilities. Ask your child to show you some of their juggling they practiced to work on visual tracking, coordination and timing. Also ask them to teach you how to perform a Karaoke step which helps to improve coordination and balance!

Science – Mrs. Rothenberg

Our third grade students have transformed into wildlife biologists! Students play the role of wildlife biologists working in Graystone National Park. They study two wolf packs and are challenged to figure out why Wolf 44, an adopted wolf, has certain traits. Students observe variation between and within different species, investigate inherited traits and those that result from the environment, and explain how Wolf 44 acquired certain traits. This month we will focus on chapters 1 and 2.

Chapter 1: Why are wolves different from each other even though they are all the same species?

Chapter 2: Why is Wolf 44’s color similar to one pack but different from the other?

Talk to your child about the world around them. What evidence do they have of traits they have inherited? Encourage them to make observations and to discuss any conclusions they have come to or things they are still wondering.

Looking Ahead:

Dec 5 – Holiday Gift Fair

Dec 19 – Photo Retake Day

Dec 24-Jan 1 – Winter Recess