**Welcome Back to School!**

Third Grade is an exciting and fun year and I cannot wait to get to know you and your child. Below you will find information regarding various procedures in our classroom. Please read through this information and keep it to refer to during the year. I know this packet may seem lengthy, but please thoroughly read through the information to become informed of classroom procedures!

**Our Daily Schedule and Related Arts**

\*\*\*Our schedule is subject to change!!\*\*\*

**8:00 – 9:05:** Writing Workshop

**9:05-9:40:** Reading Workshop-We will have a working snack time during this block

**9:40 – 10:15:** Guided Reading and Literature Circles

**10:15 – 11:00:** Science and Social Studies/Research Workshops

**11:00 – 11:30:** Recess

**11:30 – 12:20:** Related Arts

**12:20 – 12:50-** Lunch (we do not microwave)

**12:50 – 2:10:** Math

**2:10 – 2:25:** Cursive Writing

**Our related arts schedule is:**

Monday: Art

Tuesday: Computer Lab

Wednesday: PE- Your child must **wear sneakers to school on Wednesdays! They will not be able to change shoes!**

Thursday: Music

Friday: Library

**Peanut Free Classroom**

Our classroom is peanut and tree nut free this year. You child may not bring any nut or nut butter products into the classroom. A great peanut butter alternative is Sun Butter! There are also other great ones to try! Also, please be diligent in checking labels for items that “may have been processed in a facility that processes peanuts”. Remind your child it is **extremely important** that they **do not share food with their classmates!** Children should only be eating items brought from home, unless it is a pre-approved class snack or party.

**Snack, Lunch, & Birthdays**

**Snack:**

We will have a daily “working” snack time. Students will eat snack while reading independently or participating in guided reading activities. Please send a **healthy** snack to school with your child each day. Crackers, cheese, yogurt, fruits or vegetables, pre-popped popcorn etc. are perfect school choices. Try to keep special treats for special days and occasions**, including soda.** Your child is welcome to keep a water bottle at their desk during the day. An insulated, reusable bottle is best. **Only** *water*  will be allowed at students desks besides snack and lunch time. We want to avoid sticky spills as much as possible! They can refill bottles during the day to stay hydrated! Drinking water can also help your child stay refreshed and engaged in their work!

**Lunch:**

Lunch is in the classroom at 12:20 each day. Your child will need to bring lunch or order through the school lunch program. Ordered lunches must be ordered online prior to the deadline. For more information on lunch ordering you can email heather.vancamp@yorkprepsc.org. You are welcome to join us if you would like to eat with your child! If you plan to join us for lunch please let me know so I can make sure I have cleared off a table for you! We begin instruction immediately following lunch, so please plan accordingly. Lunch ends at 1:10. Children are not permitted to use the microwave.

**Birthdays:**

Our class would love to celebrate each child’s birthday. Please feel free to bring in a treat for your child’s birthday. Let me know in advance so I can plan for it and also to ensure it is a peanut free treat! We begin lunch at 12:20 and birthday celebrations usually begin around 12:30 or so to allow students time to eat their food before having a treat. Please plan to bring napkins/paper towels along with any treat you plan to bring. Birthdays can get messy!

**Homework and Homework Club**

Homework will be sent home for the week on Friday for the following week. All homework will be due by Friday of that week. Each night’s homework will consist of spelling, math, and 20 minutes of independent reading or Achieve 3000. **It is crucial that your child completes their homework in order to enhance their skills!** Homework is important practice, however I try to make it simple and it should not take a long time for students to complete. Often students can complete their work waiting during dismissal time! There may occasionally be science, social studies, language, or writing homework. Homework club is for students who complete all their homework consistently. Students will be awarded with a prize or privilege at the end of each quarter and the end of the year for completing homework. Students who turn in their homework **all year** will participate in a special party at the end of the year! **Please let me know if your child is ever having trouble with any homework content at home! I will not remove students from homework club because of difficulty with an assignment.**

**Materials and Supplies**

**Please supply the items on the YPA 3rd grade list. Below are some additional items that we use in class. If you are able to provide them it would be greatly appreciated!**

Optional items: extra pencils (preferably Ticonderoga pencils!),colored pencils, Post-it notes, construction paper, index cards, Dum Dum Lollipops, dry erase markers

Also, if you have any books your child is tired of, doesn’t read anymore they would be a great addition to our classroom library! (Or another teacher’s if the books are too juvenile for third graders!)

**Grades**

Our grade scale has changed to a ten point grade scale this year! That means a 90-100 is an A and so on. I always try to write a percentage and the letter score on assignments, but if you are ever unsure, please ask!

**Behavior**

Behavior is a crucial part of the learning environment. Without good behavior it is impossible to learn each day! I will hold your child to a high standard of behavior. I will also expect all children to treat their classmates in a kind and friendly manner. That being said, they will be fully aware of my expectations and rules from day one! In our classroom, we will use Classroom Dojo to track student behavior. You will receive information to log on online and see exactly what kind of behavior your child has each day. Student will be rewarded for positive behavior. If you are unable to access Classroom Dojo online, after receiving log on information, please let me know so I can send home reports with your child. Please take the time to go over school behavior and our class rules with your child.

**Our class rules are as follow:**

1. Follow classroom hand signals to leave seat, speak, or ask for help.
2. Respect others and all property.
3. Listen to directions, classmates, and the teacher.
4. Stay on task at all times.
5. Always do your best!

**Communication:**

Please always feel free to contact me with questions and concerns. I check my email **very frequently** and try to always promptly reply to emails. Late at night, weekends, or whenever!

My email is: sarah.watts@yorkprepsc.org

Phone: (803)-324-4400 x4155

Weekly communication will be sent home via homework calendars/newsletters and Wednesday folders. Please be sure to check Wednesday folders and keep or return items accordingly.