



## Third Grade Newsletter

### Important Reminders

November 2: Half day of school for PTC . . . Dismissal is at 11:30  
 November 7: School closed - Election day  
 November 10: Veterans day - Wear red, white and blue  
 November 13 & 14: Picture Day  
 November 17: Field Trip  
 November 20: Grade 5 Science parent workshop at 3:00pm  
 November 23 & 24: School closed - Thanksgiving

### Benchmark Phonics

We will be continuing with Unit 2: Transition to Multisyllabic Words: In this unit your child will learn about words that contain different kinds of vowels. Your child will review words with short and long vowels, as in hop, hope, and toast; and words with r-controlled vowels, as in start, corn, and bird. Your child will also review short oo and long oo, as in book, room, and new.

### Teachers College Writers Workshop

Students are finishing up publishing their narrative writing pieces! They have done such a fantastic job with Unit 1. The second writing unit is titled: *The Art of Information Writing*. Students will begin to write about topics that they feel they are an expert on and can inform others about. In this unit, you will find that students will learn to write introductions, organize information, and include text features that help their readers. We will be teaching students how to logically organize their pieces. Students will also be taught many ways to elaborate on their topics, such as learning to include facts, definitions, and other important details. As in all units of the TC series, this unit delves into development and organization as students are guided through the writing process, with guidance from teachers initially, and then they will learn how to develop and organize their pieces with the maximum amount of independence possible.

### Teachers College Readers Workshop

Our second reading unit is titled: *Reading to Learn: Grasping Main Ideas and Text Structures*. This unit aims to get students to read non-fiction books with a focus on understanding what the main idea of the text is mostly about. We will learn the difference between expository and narrative nonfiction.

### Math

In mathematics, we will be beginning our work in Module 3: Multiplication and Division with Units of 0, 1, 6-9, and Multiplies of 10. We will continue to build on the different properties of multiplication as we get stronger with our multiplication facts. Those properties include the commutative property (order doesn't matter, ex.-  $4 \times 2 = 2 \times 4$ ) and the distributive properties over addition and subtraction.  $(5 \times 3) + (3 \times 3) = 8 \times 3$  and using the closed array to support this understanding. We encourage students to be practicing studying their multiplication facts.

### Leader in Me

#### **Habit 2: Begin with the End in Mind**



### Social Studies

Students will continue working on Unit 1 of Passport to Social Studies, which explores World Geography and World Communities. Students will examine a variety of geographic tools to develop an understanding of the meaning of geography and its purposes.

By the end of the month they will identify and discuss the elements of culture in a world community, then compare and contrast a culture to personal experience.

### Science

Scientists and engineers figure out a way to build a train that actually floats on air as it goes cruising down the track at high speeds. Using similar principles, Grade 3 engineers will create a hoverboard—a device-like a skateboard that floats above a track rather than rolling along the ground. In the Balancing Forces unit, students work to investigate and then explain how these inventions seem to defy logic. Over the course of the unit, through firsthand experiences, discourse, and reading and writing informational text, students will come to understand how forces can cause stability or change in an object's motion. They will discover how magnetic force can be used to counterbalance the force of gravity. They will create physical models, diagram models, and write, and present scientific explanations detailing how the maglev (magnetic levitation) train appears to defy gravity by floating.

### Home Connection

- Help your child think about things they are very good at in their life. We will begin doing our information writing ( or expert writing This can be simple things such as taking care of the dog, roblox, soccer, basketball, dance, keeping a clean room, etc. Help them brainstorm these ideas !
- Help your child divide their items at home ->Have your child split snacks or playing cards into equal groups. Write a division problem to go with it, or just orally say it.
- Continue to Practice skip counting and multiplication facts at home daily!
- Build literacy skills through simple activities at home and in the car.
  - o Read every night!
  - o Ask your child about books they are reading at home. Ask them about the characters, problem, and solution.
  - o Have your child build their reading stamina by building on time spent reading.

