



Dear Third Grade Parents,

It was so nice to meet many of you at our Back-to-School Night on Wednesday. The third graders are organized in our classroom spaces and have settled in nicely. Our first full week is complete! We attended and enjoyed all our “special” classes. We especially liked working in the STEM lab and are looking forward to learning how to play the bells in Music class. We have begun working in all academic subjects and we started receiving homework too. We will continue to be busy working in class.

We began third grade math by looking at how addition and multiplication are connected, and how multiplying numbers is repeated addition. We are working on using number lines and arrays to demonstrate and show the multiplication facts. We are starting to learn the tables by heart too! (At least some of them!) Our new Math series, enVisions, has lots of hands on activities for us to use to help us learn! We also looked at pictures from books we will be reading in this unit and discussed what we noticed in them and what we wondered about them too. This was to start introducing students to the idea of using evidence to support one’s thinking. We talked about the “gist” of stories and identified the “gist” in our first book Rain School. We enjoyed the story of school life in Africa and began answering questions using “text evidence.”

In Religion we learned that Jesus was human, just like we are, and discussed the Blessed Trinity which includes God the Father, God the Son and the God the Holy Spirit. We talked about how there are three persons

in one God and how they are each unique and all make up the one true God. We also learned about the Incarnation, which is the truth that God became man. We discussed how we do not have many stories from Jesus growing up, and how the bible goes from Jesus' birth to public ministry. We talked about how John the Baptist baptized people and preached about repenting.

Here are reminders for the third grade:

*Each student is required to read for at least 30 minutes a day and record it on their reading log. The reading log will be collected each Monday, so they are due tomorrow.

*Our special lunch program begins this week.

*Please remember to pack a separate snack each day for your third-grader. We eat lunch at noon, so the third grade has snack in the morning.

*Please make sure all summer assignments are handed in by this Friday, Sept. 20th.

*Please return the parent questionnaire given out at Back to School Nite, as well as the tear-off from the overview of third grade.

*The order form for "bells" for our regular Music program is due by Monday. If you have bells from an older child, your third grader may use those. Please have your child bring them in on Monday.

* Please send in a smock (large old tee-shirt, etc.) for art class on Monday.

*Please check your child's folder and backpack **daily** for any notices.

*The Scholastic Book order is due on 9/24 for class 3-1.

Thank you for all that you do to help your child learn. Any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to email us. Looking forward to another great week!

Sincerely,

Ms. McCarthy and Mrs. Penny