



Homeroom

3A

Love in every word. Respect in every action. Confidence in every heart.



9/12/16

Hello Third Grade!



STAR 360 Assessment

This week, students in 3A will be taking the STAR 360 assessment. We will be taking the Math assessment on Tuesday morning; Reading will be given on Thursday morning. In order to help your child succeed, please make sure they eat a good breakfast and get plenty of sleep the night before.

Important Dates

Mass Grades 1-5

Wednesday, September 14, 2016

Parish Festival

Saturday, September 17, 2016

All School Mass

Tuesday, September 27, 2016

Tuesday, October 4, 2016

Volunteer Sign-Up Due

Friday, September 16, 2016

STAR 360 Results

This is just the first time we are taking this assessment. To establish a true vision of how our students are doing, the test will be administered as-is without any modifications. The second round of testing will be given in December or January. After the second assessment, your child's scores will be sent home. A third round of testing will take place in the spring.



Volunteer in 3A

We would love to have you in the classroom!

During Literacy, the classroom structure I use is called Daily 5. One of the tasks our class is working to master is Read to Someone. When we practice this task, we are working on our CAFÉ strategy, Fluency.

JOIN US FOR FLUENCY THURSDAYS

We need reading partners!

Who: Parent or grandparent volunteers who are VIRTUS trained.

What: During Daily 5, you will listen to someone read and help them develop stronger Fluency when reading.

When: Thursdays 8:40-9:40 (Except on Mass days)

Where: 3A. Dress comfortably as you may be sitting on the floor with your partner.

If you are interested, please send me an email by Monday, September 12, 2016. If all goes well, we will begin the program in October. Please note that you will not need to come in every week. Instead, I will create a calendar rotation based on the number of volunteers we have.

Thank you for your continued support of our young readers!

OR

HELP PREPARE LEARNING MATERIALS

See the Wednesday Update for More Information

3A Parent Volunteer Agreement

- I have taken the course and processed all paperwork to be VIRTUS certified.
- I understand that as a classroom volunteer I will learn and observe many things about the students in 3A. I agree to keep all observations confidential. I will refrain from discussing individual students with my child or with other adults in the school community including other teachers and parents.
- I will refrain from using my cell phone while in the classroom, except to use as a watch or timer.
- I understand that my reading buddies count on me to be there for them. I agree to give at least 24 hour notice if I will not be able to attend, or to find a substitute reading partner to go in my place.

Print

Sign



Assignment Notebooks

This year, third grade students are given the responsibility of an assignment notebook. Their tasks every day include:

- Write in all assignments neatly.
- Have a parent initial that they have done their nightly reading.
- Bring the Assignment Notebook and their homework folder back to school.

Signing for

Feed the Read:

Up until now, you have been signing your child's assignment notebook every night in the Language Arts column. Starting next week, there will be a special paper clipped or taped to the inside of their assignment notebook for you to sign. It will be the same process you have already been doing, but it will look a little different.

Other important Notes:

QP Spirit Wear

Back to school is an exciting time of year, and now is your chance to purchase the 2016-2017 QP School Spirit Wear designs! There will only be one order date this fall and items will be delivered mid to late October.

Last week, QP Spirit Wear order forms were sent home. Order Forms are due Friday, September 23, 2016. Don't forget, Spirit Wear makes a great Christmas gift! Buy a shirt now and a winter hat for the holidays.

Parish Festival Tickets

Parish Festival Raffle tickets were sent home with your children last week as well. Please help make the Parish Festival a success by selling or purchasing these 6 tickets! Tickets are \$10 each or 6 for \$50. The buyer keeps the large part of the ticket. You can return the completed ticket in 3 ways:

- **In the gathering space after all weekend Masses.**
- **Parish Center Front Desk or School Office during normal business hours.**
- **Parish Festival ticket booth on Saturday, September 17, before 7:00pm**

Science with Mrs. Bernecker

This week the students learned that there are all kinds of communities in our country. Some communities are big and crowded, while others are small with few people. During our lessons this week the students read about three different kinds of communities: Beatrice Nebraska (rural), Alexandria, Virginia (suburban), and San Francisco, California (urban).

The students read that there are roughly 2 million farms in the United States today. Of those 2 million farms, about 86% of them are individually or family owned with an overall average farm size of 487 acres. The kids learned that young people today who want to be farmers often go to special colleges to learn how to farm productively. We continued our learning by reading about Alexandria, Virginia. Alexandria is a suburb because it is a community that is near a city (Washington, D.C.). Today, suburbs like Alexandria are growing because there are many jobs in and around these communities.

One way to distinguish among urban, rural, and suburban communities is by comparing population size. We estimated the population relationships between the three community types (from smallest to largest). The students were amazed to see the population differences between these three different communities.

On Friday, the students started to draw three different pictures (in groups) of these three types of communities. We will finish these drawings early next week! So far, their pictures include all forms of transportation used in the communities (such as automobiles, taxis, buses, bicycles, commuters trains, tractors, etc.). They also include buildings, houses, farmland, and other aspects of each community.

Here are some questions that you can ask your child to check for comprehension at home:

- What do farmers participate in at the Gage County Fair in Beatrice, Nebraska? (They show their best farm animals and crops.)
- What is transportation (A way of getting from one place to another; cars, buses, trains, etc.)
- How is an urban community different from a rural community? (Urban communities have many businesses, workers, tall buildings, and people. Rural communities have many farms and fewer people.)

