



Elliott's Events

Mrs. Elliott: 3B

November 7, 2014



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613-5749

www.3b2011.wikispaces.com

Dear Parents and Guardians,

We spend a large portion of our day working on developing literacy skills. We have focused time during the day to work on foundational skills in reading and writing, but we also work on literacy skills in social studies, science and math too.

We spent a lot of time at the beginning of the year practicing choosing a "good fit" book. The students know that when reading a book independently, they should be able to read most of the words easily, it should be interesting to them, and they should understand the content. Please continue to reinforce this idea with your child at home. We do practice strategies for reading higher level text during science, social studies, and in reading groups, but it is important for children to spend time reading books on their level when they are reading independently.

In our reading groups, we are working on responding to questions about the text and using evidence from the text to support our thinking. You can help with this at home by asking your child questions about their reading. When they answer, ask "How do you know?" or "What is your evidence from the text?"

Please see the back of this week's newsletter for more ideas about building a reader at home. As always, thanks for your support!

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me by phone or email.

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Math Fact Songs and Videos

The following are links to online sites that have music to help students learn their multiplication facts.

Songs to learn the count bys (multiples):

[http://www.epsilen.com/MyPortal/](http://www.epsilen.com/MyPortal/Public/CustomTab.aspx?)

[Public/CustomTab.aspx?ta-bID=41574&prefix=amandabone&systemName=Multiplication%20motivation%20songs](http://www.epsilen.com/MyPortal/Public/CustomTab.aspx?ta-bID=41574&prefix=amandabone&systemName=Multiplication%20motivation%20songs)

Music videos to learn some of the facts:

<http://www.fastertimestables.com/cool-times-tables-songs/>

Next Week in 3rd Grade:

Math: We will continue with multiplication and division strategies. We will also take a district benchmark test to check on our progress.

Writing: We will work on using linking words and phrases in our writing.

Reading: We will continue with our guided reading groups.

Science: We will do some research on planets and each student will create a brochure to promote their favorite planet.

OUR HABIT OF THE WEEK
NEXT WEEK IS: Synergize

Specialist Schedule



Monday: Computers 1:40-2:10
Library 2:10-2:40

Tuesday: Art 1:40-2:40

Wednesday: Computers 1:40-2:10
Library 2:10-2:40

Thursday: Counselor 1:10-1:40
P.E. 1:40-2:10
Music 2:10-2:40

Friday: P.E. 1:40-2:10
Music 2:10-2:40

School-Home Connection

Salute to Veterans (in the gym): 11/11 @ 9:00

No School for Students: 11/14

Goodies for Grandparents: 11/25

Thanksgiving Break (No School): 11/26-11/28



Building a Reader At Home

Explore Books!

Give your child an opportunity to explore books. Visiting a library or bookstore gives your child a chance to find topics and books that interest them.

Read, Read, Read!

Make sure to read for at least 30 minutes per day! Students can read independently, aloud to an adult, or back and forth with a partner.

Ask Questions!

- Predictions
- Characters
- Main Idea
- Problem
- Solution
- Retell Story
- Genre
- Moral

Make it Fun!

Reading shouldn't be a chore.

Intentionally read with your child/discuss books but also research topics and do book activities together.

Be an Example!

Children learn by example, so let your child see you read whether it be a book, newspaper, cookbook, etc.

Pick Good Fit Books!

A book that is a good match for your child should meet the following requirements:

- Purpose for reading
- Interest
- Can they understand what they are reading? Can they retell the story?
- Do they know most of the words?

For Beginning Readers:

- Point out and read words in natural settings – stores, streets, etc.
- Memorize sight words
- Visualize the story in your head
- Ask questions before, during, and after
- Don't immediately tell an unknown word to your student. Instead, ask them to:
 - Sound out the word
 - Break the word into parts
- Try a different vowel sound (long/short)
- Use illustrations for clues
- Skip the word, re-read sentence, and go back – what word would make sense?

For Advanced Readers:

- Notice interesting, new vocabulary words, and make it a challenge to use them in conversation
- Read with expression
- Explore non-fiction books and their text features (diagrams, table of contents, etc.) along with other genres as well
- Compare and contrast books
- Discuss connections to literature
- Think of new titles for books
- Explore multiple books from the same author