

Third grade is an academic turning point for students. There are many new concepts that will be introduced in third grade. Our curriculum is packed full of wonderful concepts your child will learn this year. I will work very diligently to cover all concepts so your child will be adequately prepared for fourth grade next year.

Third grade is also a critical year for Georgia's "No Child Left Behind". Students who do not pass the reading portion of the CRCT may not be promoted to the fourth grade. Parents should keep in mind that third grade is the first year in which the students are required to read the CRCT on their own. Teachers read only the directions with students- very different from second grade, when the test was read to the students.

Open communication between home and school is very important. I believe it is important for us to work together so your child can do their best. Please contact me anytime you have any questions. I have included in this letter my expectations and daily procedures that will help you and your child make a smooth transition into third grade.

**Daily Folder:** This purple folder will go home everyday in your child's book bag. Please make your child responsible for showing you his/her folder everyday and send it back to school daily. The Correspondence pocket is for you to put money, notes or any papers that need to be returned to school. The Homework pocket is where your child will put homework that needs to be completed or work that needs to be turned in.

**Homework:** Your child will write down their homework on a sheet of paper that will be placed in their daily folder. Spelling homework will be assigned on Monday and due on Friday. Other subject homework will be assigned and due the next day. Homework will be given on Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday.

**Lunch:** Our class eats lunch at 11:50-12:20. If you would like to join us for lunch, please meet us at the cafeteria doors. Let me know if you would like to purchase a school lunch the morning you plan to eat with your child so I can mark it on my lunch count sheet. You may prepay for your child's lunch a week or a month at a time. Your child has a new lunch number. Please put all lunch money in an envelope labeled with your child's name, my name, lunch money, and lunch number. Please don't include snack money with lunch money. Your child's lunch number is \_\_\_\_\_.

**Notes:** Please send a note to me if your child's transportation home from school changes. This is very important so that I can make sure that your child gets home safely. If your child is absent, please send a written note the day your child returns to school telling why he/she was absent that day.

**Money:** When sending any money to school, please be sure to place it in a labeled envelope. Please put your child's first and last name, what the money is for, and my name on the envelope. This helps me to make sure I am sending your money to the proper place.

**Ice Cream:** Your child may purchase ice cream starting today. Please only send exact change on the day your child would like to buy ice cream. I will collect the money each day in the morning before 8:00. Lunch money and ice cream money must remain separate.

**Birthdays:** I will be glad to hand out birthday invitations if everyone in the class is invited or unless all the girls or all the boys are invited. This is done to help prevent feelings from getting hurt.

**Weekly special schedule:**

Tuesday- P.E. 8:40-9:15

\*Please make sure your child wears tennis shoes and appropriate clothing for gym.

Flip flops and dresses or skirts are not appropriate for the activities planned.

Wednesday- Music 8:40-9:20

Thursday- Art 8:40-9:25 please send in a big t-shirt.

Friday- Computer Lab 1:10- 1:50

**Classroom Expectations:**

Here are our classroom rules:

1. Listen and follow directions the first time they are given.
2. Work quietly without disturbing others.
3. Keep your hands and feet to yourself.
4. Be respectful of others and their things.

I plan to use the color card system for behavior management.

Green card= 5 minutes sitting out during free time

Orange card= 10 minutes sitting out during free time

Red card= All of free time is taken away and a note will be sent home.

Please discuss this sheet with your child, sign it, and send it back to school the next day.

**Rewards:**

Catch you being good- Your child can earn tickets when they are caught being good. These tickets can be turned in during certain times during the year for special prizes from our class prize container.

I really look forward to a great year with your child. Please call me if you have any questions or concerns. You can reach me at the school at 320-9397 or at [cockrell-m@harris.k12.ga.us](mailto:cockrell-m@harris.k12.ga.us)