

January 2, 2018

Dear Third Grade Parents and Students,



Welcome back to school! I hope you all had a nice Christmas break with your families. I'm so happy to see the third graders again and am ready to get 2018 started!

REMINDERS

Native American Project: Tomorrow, a packet explaining the Native American Project will be sent home with your child (yellow). Please go over this packet with him or her. In it you will find an explanation of the written, visual and oral aspects of the project, a timeline, rubric and guidelines for how to support your child with this project.

The first deadline is: January 16th – Students need to choose a tribe to study and bring kid-friendly books on the tribe to school. (See the packet for information on appropriate research materials. These books will remain at school until all research is completed. If you would like to preview the books with your child and help them tab the FOOD, CLOTHING, and SHELTER pages at home that is great, just bring them in by the 16th.

Multiplication/Division Facts: Students begin memorizing their multiplication and division facts. **A letter is coming home tomorrow with more details and should be signed and returned to school by the end of the week.** Even if students struggled with timed tests last year, it's amazing a difference a year makes developmentally in memorization and study skills. Most students succeed when they study a little bit each night and are prepared! We will be multiplication **NINJAS** this year and I know the kids will all earn a black belt by the end of the year.

Papers Coming Home: I will be sending home the Division test and book report today. Please review these with your child.

Items Needed: Any small, thin plastic tubs similar to ones berries or veggies come in and small, empty tissue boxes (square/cube style) to use in our science unit.

Reading Log: The December reading log needs to be turned in by **Thursday**. I will hand out the January reading logs today. These will be due Thursday, Feb. 1st.

GeoJourney Test: There is a test on the Southwest and Mountain region states and abbreviations next Friday, Jan. 12th.

CURRICULUM

Reading: We read Yonder Mountain: A Cherokee Legend; our target skill is compare and contrast. Students will create a graphic organizer to describe the meaning of the different symbols in the story. We also read about the Trail of Tears and discuss its significance.

Math: Students begin memorizing their multiplication and division facts this week. We begin with our **0 and 1** facts tomorrow (mixed). For students to succeed, it is crucial that they practice their facts daily at home. We also begin a new chapter on fractions. This week we learn what a fraction is.

Social Studies: We finish our study of culture. Students will also take the GeoJourney test for the Southwest and Mountain region states and abbreviations next Friday, January 12th. We will review the states in class this week and a study guide will also come home with your child this week.

Science: This week we will begin a new unit on hermit crabs. Students will learn about the hermit crab life cycle and compare it to life cycles we have previously learned about.

Religion: We will review the Christmas Season, from Christmas Day to Epiphany. We will also begin our discussion about Jesus as the Good News.

Language Arts: Students work on their snow globe writing. We focus on adding similes and vivid details to make it interesting.

Spelling. Homework is due Thursday and the test will be on Friday. This week we work with contractions.

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|----------|---------|---------|---------|--------|----------|
| I'd | he's | haven't | doesn't | let's | there's |
| wouldn't | what's | she's | aren't | hasn't | couldn't |
| he'd | they're | | | | |

challenge word: we're

No star this week
Star Next week: Landen

Have a great week!

Sincerely,

Erin Meland