

**Thursday, January 23, 2020**  
**Third Grade Newsletter**

**Important Information:**

Please visit this [link](#) to help us better communicate with you in the future. Thank you for your feedback!

You should have received an email this month from Panorama for a survey about your classroom teacher. This is your opportunity to give your teachers feedback. We look forward to hearing from you. Remember, the survey won't come from PSD so keep an eye out for an email from Panorama. The survey is open for a couple weeks. Details about this important parent opportunity are included in the school newsletter.

Rome Festival Preparation: Please visit this [link](#) if you are interested in donating items or helping out on January 31st, in the afternoon.

Our classroom is running low on the following supplies. I appreciate your donations, but please do not feel obligated:

- Tissues
- Reward Bin Items - student requested these items:
  - Mechanical Pencils
  - Fancy Pens
  - Toy Cars
  - Squishies
  - Bouncy Balls
  - Slime
  - Fidget Spinners
  - Slinkies

It is that time of year! Place your order for the 2019-2020 Bethke yearbook. All sales will be pre-order only, through the online portal. The yearbook is published in full color and costs \$25. This year's book will feature each homeroom class with a portrait page and a variety of candid shots from the year. Fifth grade students will each have a small list of their "favorite things" to accompany their portrait as well. **Orders can be placed now through March 23, 2020 through the following link** <https://commpe.pictavo.com/PictavoSchool/FindSchool>. Please contact Mrs. Pegg, [lpegg@psdschools.org](mailto:lpegg@psdschools.org), with any questions.

**Upcoming Parenting Seminar:**

LOVE AND LOGIC PARENT CLASS, January 29, 2020, Bethke Cafeteria 9:00-10:30 a.m.

*Love and Logic is a loving, balanced approach to parenting We provide a loving, balanced approach that is neither permissive nor punitive. We show adults how to discipline kids without losing their love and respect. We focus on helping children develop personal responsibility, self-control and good decision-making skills. Unlike some approaches we don't use complicated reward or punishment systems only focused on short-term compliance. Instead, we focus on nurturing long-term relationships and reinforcing good character. Theresa Fightmaster will facilitate the classes and will take your scenarios and apply Love and Logic Basics so that you can go home and use the tips in practical application. Theresa has been a counselor in Poudre School District for 20 years and is passionate about Love and Logic and has facilitated hundreds of groups over the years.*

#### THE WEEKS AHEAD:

- 1/23 - Talent Show @ 6:30pm
- 1/24 - Talent Show @ 9:00am
- 1/29 - Love and Logic Parent Class @ 9:00-10:30am
- 1/31 - Student Council Spirit Day \*Sports Jersey Day\*
- 1/31 - Roman Festival from 1:30-3:00. Visit this [link](#) to find out how you can contribute or volunteer to help!
- 2/1-2/28 - Schools on the Move \*A calendar will be sent home in Friday Folders the last week of January.
- 2/10 - PTO Meeting @ 8:55am
- 2/14 - Valentine's Celebration, we will not have a formal party, instead students will enjoy opening Valentines and spending time with their classmates
- 2/17 - NO SCHOOL, Staff Work Day
- 2/20 - 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Music Program @ 6:30pm
- 2/21 - 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Music Program @ 9:00am
- 2/28 - 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Coffee Talk with Mrs. Alfonso @8:50am (Q & A about CMAS/Standardized Testing)
- 3/2 - NO SCHOOL, Staff Work Day
- 3/16-3/20 - NO SCHOOL, Spring Break

\*\* Looking WAY ahead- our CMAS Testing dates will be April 1-3 for ELA and April 7-9 for Math. We please ask you to keep these dates in mind when making appointments! \*\*

#### ACADEMICS:

## Reading

In reading, students started a Magic Tree House novel about Ancient Rome. They will have many opportunities to discuss and respond to the novel as they make connections, summarize, identify the main idea and include details, along with asking questions.

We continue to encourage our students to follow the RACE format as they respond to reading. At this time in the year, students should ALWAYS be capitalizing the beginning of sentences and proper nouns, and putting punctuation at the end of every sentence. We appreciate you reminding your child the importance of taking the extra time to reread their writing to check for CUPS.

## Writing

Grammar instruction focused on regular and irregular past tense verbs. As you are reading with your child, ask your child to identify past tense verbs in their reading. Every week, students are asked to listen to and write two sentences, and identify the weekly skill in each sentence. If your child is having difficulty with the weekly sentence dictations, we encourage you to practice this format using his/her spelling words.

Students have spent the last couple of weeks reading a variety of texts and watching videos to gather facts about specific topics in ancient Rome. The writing process will continue with students writing a total of three articles for a Roman Newspaper: Pompeii, A Villa for Sale, and Colosseum or Circus Maximus. Students will also have an opportunity to write two bonus articles of their choice! Students will also create a Pixton (comic) in tech. The hope is to display the final product of these Roman Newspapers, in the hallway, on January 31.

Lowercase cursive review has ended and students have begun uppercase cursive letters. We highly encourage students to complete ONE spelling activity in cursive.

## History/Geography

We continue instruction about ancient Rome. We encourage you to ask your child about the interesting facts they are learning! Students will decorate their pillowcase with lines and patterns to create a tunic they will wear, over their clothes, at our Rome Fest on the afternoon of January 31.

## Math:

We have been truly impressed with the confidence and excitement that the students are showing as we learn about fractions! Students have been practicing using a ruler and measuring to the nearest fourth and half inch. Students took a Topic 12 Assessment yesterday. Be on the lookout for your child's Topic 12 scores in his/her Friday Folder this week or next week.

Topic 13: Fraction Equivalence and Comparison began today. Students will spend time exploring equivalent fractions and compare fractions with the same denominators, different numerators, and with different numerators, same denominators. Read below for more information about the topic:

# Fraction Equivalence and Comparison

Topic 13

## Topic 13 Standards

3.NF.A.3a, 3.NF.A.3b, 3.NF.A.3c, 3.NF.A.3d

See the front of the Student's Edition for complete standards.

Dear Family,

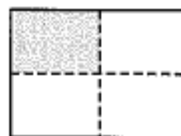
Your child is continuing to learn about fractions. He or she is learning to find equivalent fractions, which are fractions that name the same part of a whole. Your child is also learning to compare and order fractions by using models, number lines, and number sense.

Here is an activity that you and your child can do together.

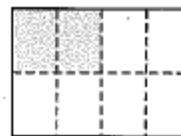
## Equivalent Fractions

**Materials** paper, pencil or marker

**Step 1** Fold one piece of paper into four equal sections. Using a pencil or a marker, shade one section. Ask your child to name the fraction of the paper that is shaded. [ $\frac{1}{4}$ ]



**Step 2** Refold the paper as before, and then fold it in half one more time to make eight equal sections. Ask your child to name the fraction of the paper that is shaded now. [ $\frac{2}{8}$ ]



**Step 3** Ask your child to name the fraction of the paper that is NOT shaded. [ $\frac{6}{8}$ ] Have your child name a different fraction that is equal to that amount. [ $\frac{3}{4}$ ]