

## Third Grade Newsletter - Thursday, September 19, 2019

### REMINDERS:

Thank you for signing your child's planner to show us that you reviewed it with him/her. The kids are off to a great start and showing responsibility by bringing their planner and homework folder every day. Please keep reinforcing this responsibility at home, along with encouraging them to complete their weekly homework so they can get paid with BOB Bucks!

As a reminder, students should not be wearing a Smartwatch and/or carrying a cellphone on them during the school day. Please remind your child to turn it off and keep it in his/her backpack. We appreciate your support!

We have wrapped up the beginning of the year assessments. We are looking forward to sharing this data with you at our October conference. Be sure you sign up for a 20 minute conference with me. I sent a SignUp Genius link on Friday, August 30. Here is the link again: [Eucker's October Conference Sign Up](#).

### IMPORTANT DATES:

Friday, 9/20 - NO SCHOOL, Staff Collaboration Day

Wednesday, 9/25 - ARDEC Field Trip in the morning, lunch at school

\*\*CSU students will be guiding the kids through this agriculture field trip, so they ask that we do not have additional volunteers. **One possible concern COULD be allergies/asthma for some students.** CSU ARDEC will do what they can to keep dust/dander down, but it is an agricultural environment and we want you to be aware of those exposures that are inherent to a farm environment. Twice during the two-hour window we will be riding a trailer behind a tractor with straw bales to sit upon. **\*We will eat lunch at school, at our regular time.**

Thursday, 9/26 - 4K Run after school (make arrangements with your child)

Friday, 9/27 - First Whole School Fitness Friday, 8:45am

October 14-17, PTO Book Fair

Tuesday & Wednesday, 10/15 & 10/16 - Evening Parent/Teacher Conferences, refer to the Sign Up Genius

Thursday, 10/17 - NO SCHOOL, Conferences and Teacher Work Day

Friday, 10/18 - NO SCHOOL

Tuesday, 10/22 - Picture Retakes and Class Picture Day

Friday, 10/25 - PTO Fall Social, Trunk or Treat

### Academics:

**Spelling:** Students have been practicing their WTW Spelling Menu activities in class. Yesterday, they took their first practice WTW Spelling Test. We

will continue to practice next week, with one more practice test, before sending home their first WTW Spelling Sort List on Friday, September 27. Students are encouraged to practice their spelling words every week, at home. We spend about 30 minutes on Fridays learning the pattern for the week, and then it is the responsibility of the students to use the WTW Spelling Menu Activities to practice four activities. This is due back on Thursdays.

**Literacy:** In grammar, we have reviewed identifying and categorizing types of nouns and pronouns. Students learned that there are two parts for a complete sentence - subject (the who or what) and predicate (what the subject has, is, or does). We have spent time editing and revising writing using a blue pen to find errors in our writing based on these skills.

Reading lessons have been focusing on comparing and contrasting characters, events, and settings in stories. Next week, we will begin small group reading instruction which will focus on a variety of targeted skills such as vocabulary, phonics, fluency, and comprehension.

Students worked very hard on writing a small moment personal narrative story. They followed the writing process, and even used their blue pen to edit and revise like real authors! The final, published copy is on display in the hallway!

Students have been learning, and will practice IVF Summaries. Students are encouraged to use this format: Identify It, Verb It, and Finish It, to write a topic sentence. When writing a summary, the expectation is to include three main events, with a five sentence paragraph.

Next week, students will focus on types of figurative language such as similes, metaphors, onomatopoeia, and hyperbole. Next week, we will begin our informational writing unit where students will write a descriptive paragraph about Autumn using figurative language and their five senses to "show, don't tell."

**History:** We completed our Fossils Unit. Ask your child about the different types of fossils! Students will begin learning about the history of Native Americans, Vikings, and Explorers. We will spend the next month reading to gather facts about these different groups, and then students will work in a small group to create their first presentation about one of these groups.

**Math:** Third graders just completed their Topic 1: Understanding Multiplication and Division of Whole Numbers assessment last Friday. You should have seen this come home last week. To review test taking procedures in math, we did the Topic 1 test as a whole class.

On Monday, we began Topic 2 which focuses on multiplication facts and using patterns. Our essential question is: How can unknown multiplication facts be found using patterns and properties? Although we want students to master and memorize their multiplication facts by the end of third grade, we are investigating the patterns found on the multiplication table. The facts we've introduced are 0, 1, 2, 5, 9, and 10.

Please remember, homework should not be a battle, and we appreciate you taking the time to encourage your child to complete extra practice at home. Remember, if your child returns their homework packet on Thursdays they get paid in BOB Bucks to shop in the BOB Buck store on Fridays! Below is the Topic 2 Newsletter.

# Multiplication Facts: Use Patterns

## Topic 2 Standards

3.OA.A.1, 3.OA.A.3, 3.OA.B.5, 3.OA.D.9

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

Dear Family,

Your child is learning to multiply using 0, 1, 2, 5, 9, and 10 as factors. Help him or her learn these multiplication facts by using patterns.

Skip counting patterns can help your child with multiplication facts using 2, 5, or 10 as factors. For example, to find  $2 \times 7$  or  $7 \times 2$ , skip count by 2s seven times.

2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14       $7 \times 2 = 14$

Make or buy a set of multiplication flash cards, and play this game with your child.

## Penny Patterns

**Materials** cards with multiplication problems where 0, 1, 2, 5, 9, and 10 are factors, 100 pennies

**Step 1** Mix the multiplication cards and place them facedown.

**Step 2** Player 1 turns over a card without Player 2 seeing it. Player 1 then uses pennies to show the multiplication problem. For example, if the problem is  $4 \times 5$ , Player 1 could place the pennies in 4 rows of 5 pennies each.

**Step 3** Player 2 looks at the penny pattern and says what multiplication problem is on the card and gives the answer.

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## Observe Your Child

### Focus on Mathematical Practice 7

Look for and make use of structure.

Help your child become proficient with Mathematical Practice 7. After your child has created an array, have him or her skip count the pennies using one of the factors. Make clear that a pattern can also be observed by counting by the other factor.