

September, 2011

Hi, Parents,

We are off to a great start in the new school year! Your Third Graders have enjoyed exploring the new building, and now we are diving into some fun curriculum!

We are spending some time at the beginning of the year building community and setting up guidelines for being respectful, responsible, and safe. The children have really succeeded in being positive in all these areas, and we encourage you to reinforce these important values.

Our Social Studies unit on maps and globes is exciting, as the students learn to read maps and discover facts about places in the world. We will also begin our year- long study of Colorado history by learning about the settlers who came to Boulder.

In Math we are working with adding and subtracting hundreds, tens, and ones, including counting money. You can really help us by spending time with your child helping him/her to memorize the facts to 18. (For example, $7+9=16$ and $16-9=7$.) For fun and practice, you could also empty out your spare change and have the kids count the coins.

Our Literacy groups are coming together and we are beginning to do some fabulous reading and writing. We appreciated all of you who came to Back to School Night and learned more about our program! We have almost completed all the assessments of where the students are in their skills, and so we will build on those for the new school year! In September we will focus on author studies, realistic fiction, sentence structures, and journal writing. We ask that your child reads for at least 20 minutes every day, and it is great if you ask them questions about what they read.

Thanks for all your support of us and of your child as we begin this wonderful year in Third Grade!

Third Grade Team: Ms. Carole, Ms. Karla, Ms. Pappageorge, Ms. Tamara