

# Third Grade Newsletter

## January 2012



### Science

**Happy New Year!** We hope you had a meaningful and fun time with your children over the holiday break! Some students came back telling about the wonderful books they had read in their free time! We really encourage the children to read at least 20 minutes every day, and the more they read, the more they love it!

In Science, our unit is Rocks, Minerals, and Fossils. As we study these, we observe, predict, read, experiment, hypothesize, and record our data. Some reading, writing, and math skills are all necessary as we do science.

### Upcoming Events January 16-

- **Martin Luther King Jr.'s Bday- No School**
- **Jan. 19-Project BEAR Science Program**
- **Jan. 27 Bineducados Assembly 2:15-2:45**

**Other instructional foci in January:** We are also busy with various tests, implementing Literacy Squared (our research project with CU), and celebrating each child's success! January 19 will bring a special presentation by the City of Boulder's Open Space Department, including hands-on activities about black bears, one of our Colorado animals.

### Math

### Social Studies

We are beginning our study of the Plains Indians who lived in Colorado. We are reading some great Native American legends and tall tales, which give us a chance to use some higher level thinking skills like inferring. We are also taking notes and learning how the Indians followed the buffalo, which provided them with everything they needed.

Math class is helping us discover many ways to explain our thinking about multiplication and division. Ask your child to skip count (count by 2's, 7's, or 9's, for example), or practice adding multiple numbers:  $6+6+6+6=24$ , etc. As you can see, addition and subtraction are important in facilitating answers, so continue to work with your child in memorizing + and - facts!

Thanks for all you do in helping your child thrive and continue to Learn!



—Ms. Pappageorge, Ms. Karla, Carole and Tamara