

Back to School Night 2023-2024

Dear Parents,

Welcome to the third grade! This year has been off to a fantastic start. The children are getting acquainted with our classroom procedures and have been adjusting very well. My goal is to provide the students with a productive and fun-filled year. Below are some important items that will help you understand what is expected of your child this year. Together we can help ensure that your child has an excellent year in third grade that is filled with accomplishments.

Our Specials Schedule:

Monday: Gym

Tuesday: STEM

Wednesday: Creative Writing

Thursday: Art & Mass

Friday: Art

Homework:

Each child will be given time throughout the day to copy their nightly homework into their planner. The students will be expected to pack their backpack with the correct books each night. All homework, tests, and assignments will also be posted on our class page on the school website. Incomplete or missing homework will result in a lower report card grade.

Academics:

We will be following a new ELA Curriculum this year in 3rd Grade. The updated curriculum was designed by our St. Francis de Sales Literacy Committee and based on Wit and Wisdom and the New York State Next Generation ELA Standards. There will be a heavy emphasis on writing in 3rd grade. As part of our new ELA curriculum, we will be following the St. Francis de Sales K-8 writing curriculum. Students will focus on producing polished pieces of writing in four genres; informational, narrative, argumentative, and response to literature. Reading every night is a **crucial** part of third grade and students should read for 25 minutes each night. Students may be asked to share what they read the following day in class.

We will continue to use Into Math this year. There will be a separate book for our class lessons and homework. Please review multiplication facts every night. It is **essential** that your child commits these facts to memory! Math take home tests will be sent home for each chapter before the exam and they will be counted as a **quiz** grade.

During the first trimester, late work will be accepted after the due date (within one week) without penalty. If a student submits assignments late during the second trimester, he/she will lose 5 points from that particular assignment. During the third trimester, students who do not submit work on time will lose 5 points per day it is late, up to 15 points. If there is an unforeseen circumstance that prevents your child from completing an assignment, please let me know.

Grading Policy:

Reading/Language Arts- Reading Assessments: 40%, Grammar/Writing: 30%,

Classwork/Homework/Projects: 15%, Spelling: 15%

Math- Tests: 40%, Quizzes: 30%, Classwork/Homework: 30%

Science/Social Studies/ Religion- Tests: 50%, Quizzes: 20%, Classwork/Homework: 30%

School Policies:

A working snack will be permitted in the third-grade classrooms. Students will have time to eat their snack while working on an assignment. For this reason, please send a quick, easy, dry snack. Please be very mindful that we are a **peanut free school** due to some serious allergies in our school. It is extremely important that we comply with this regulation. If your child would like to celebrate his/her birthday, please contact me about setting up a date to celebrate. If your child is unable to have certain foods due to allergies or other concerns, please feel free to send in an alternative snack your child can have during the celebration.

Please make sure to read the handbook and use it as a reference for all uniform policies. Third grade students are expected to be in complete uniform throughout the entire year.

Classroom Policies:

Third grade is a very important year for the students. There is a tremendous amount of growth, both as a student and a person. Students will be given more responsibilities as the year progresses. It is important that we encourage your child to work hard, stay organized, be responsible, and make good choices, both at school and at home. By sharing the same message at school and at home, it will help your child better develop these skills.

A variety of positive reinforcement strategies will be used to help foster positive behaviors and recognize students for their hard work throughout the year. At times you may receive notes home about something special your child did, or about how hard he/she worked. I encourage you to celebrate these notes and share them with your child to continue to build their confidence and character.

Throughout the year, I will send home flyers from Scholastic. This is a great opportunity for you to purchase high-interest books for your child. You can order directly online by logging into your Scholastic Book Club account and using the "Find My Teacher" function or going to <https://orders.scholastic.com/PBQJR>

Communication:

If you need to contact me, you may send a note in with your child or email me at dfarragher@stfrancisschoolbh.net and I will get back to you. Emails will be answered until 5:00pm on weekdays. Any email sent later in the evening will be answered the following school day. Any emails sent on the weekend will be answered on Monday.

Please know that I have your child's best interest at heart and we are on the same team. I look forward to working together with all of you to create a great school year. I thank you in advance for your anticipated support and cooperation.



God Bless,

Danielle Farragher