

# NEWSLETTER

## Welcome to Third Grade!!

# Mrs. Russ

**Rockets**

2011-2012

Allyson  
Tiffany  
Carter  
Joseph  
Adrienne  
Brianna  
Jacob  
Mason  
Austin  
Bryce  
Zeke  
Clara  
Tessa  
Devon  
Joshua  
Mary  
Mackenzie

Learning is a great adventure in third grade. Unlike second grade, where so much time is spent reinforcing and ensuring mastery of the skills taught in first grade, many new and more sophisticated skills are introduced in third grade. Emphasis is placed on the application of these skills. For instance, third grade students are not only "learning to read",

they are beginning to "read to learn."

This year, we are all going to **reach for the stars!** The following information will give you a small glimpse of the wonderful and challenging things that will happen in my classroom as we **launch into third grade.**



### Tuesday Folders and Graded School Work

All of the work your child does in school during the week, as well as their corrected homework, will be sent home in their Tuesday Folder. I do not send any corrected work home at any other time during the week.

Look over the completed assignments in the Tuesday Folder and **sign the sheet in the front of the folder** to indicate that you have seen the papers. **Return the empty folder on Wednesday morning.**

Do not return any graded papers except those marked "Sign and return."

### Clothing

Third Grade is MESSY!! You never can tell when we will have a surprise art or science project to go along with our subject area studies! We frequently use markers, paint, and glue for class projects. While these materials should wash out of clothing, please save special outfits for Picture Day or other planned occasions.

**Children also go outside for recess and for P.E. nearly every day.** Please make sure your child is appropriately dressed for the weather. Rockets should wear **athletic shoes** every day.

**Flip-flops and other slip-on shoes are not allowed by the school dress code.**





## Our Class Website

You will find lots of information about my class on our class website at <http://mrsruss.com>

I hope you will take a few minutes to explore some of the information in the “**Parent**” **section** to find out more about my class.

## Planners

Your child’s planner will be used to record **homework assignments** and other due dates. Please **check the planner every day** and **initial the box** that you have seen the homework and to indicate that your child has done the required 20 minutes of reading.

## Homework

Your child should bring home a **homework folder** every day except Friday. This folder will have homework and other important papers that are due the next day. Students are expected to complete all homework and to **read for 20 minutes every night**. Generally, homework should not take more than 40 minutes to complete, including reading for 20 minutes.

## Grades

The district has mandated that grades for elementary students will be based on three categories of tasks, each with a

different total weighting of the final grade.

The categories are:

**Practice:** 10% of the grade. Daily class work, math fact practice, weekly spelling tests, graded homework

**Formative Assessment:** 50% of the grade. Teacher made assessments, quizzes.

**Summative Assessment:** 40% of the grade. Assessment to determine mastery of skills, unit tests, projects, “cold” reads.

There is not a separate grade on the report card for Spelling. **Spelling tests will be included as part of the Reading grade in the 10% category.**



## This Week:

### READING

“Dear Juno.”  
Spelling Unit 1.2

### MATH

Place Value. Reading and writing numbers through hundred thousands place. Writing numbers in standards, expanded, and word forms.

### SCIENCE

Science process skills.  
Scientific method.

### SOCIAL STUDIES

Government and  
Citizenship.

### LANGUAGE ARTS

Identifying types of sentences: Statement, Question, Command, Exclamation.

Cursive lower case letters

### Reminder:

At the end of last year, Senora Avellanet sent home the students’ **Spanish Picture Dictionaries**. Students will continue working in their Picture Dictionaries this year, so remember where you put it and send it back to school!

