

Third Grade Newsletter

Issue: November 2018

P.S. 173Q

Third Grade Teachers

Reading

In Reading Workshop, students will be reading mystery books. We will be keeping track of clues, wondering about suspects, jotting down confusions, and discussing our thinking with our partners. While doing all this, we will be developing and practicing our literal comprehension (retelling, envisioning, predicting). We will then raise the level of mystery reading by developing character theories through the lens of mystery. At the end of the unit, we will transfer and apply everything we have learned within the mystery genre to all fiction stories.



Social Studies

We will be wrapping up our unit on Geography. Students will share their postcard writing projects teaching their families and friends all about their continent. We will also have a test to assess our learning in the first unit. We will then begin our studies of different countries around the world – starting with Egypt.



Writing

For the month of November, students will be writing persuasive essays about various topics. We will form an idea or opinion about a topic that matters to us, then support it with reasons. We will learn to support our claim by giving reasons and examples. In addition, writers will have the opportunity to spend an extended amount of time on one piece, taking it through the writing process (prewriting, drafting, revising, editing, publishing).



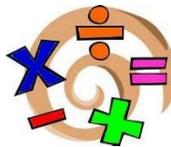
Science

Scientists and engineers have figured out a way to build a train that actually floats on air as it goes cruising down the track at high speeds. Using similar principles, engineers have created a hoverboard—a device like a skateboard that floats above a track rather than rolling along the ground. In the Balancing Forces unit, students work to investigate and then explain how these inventions seem to defy logic. Over the course of the unit, through firsthand experiences, discourse, and reading and writing informational text, students will come to understand how forces can cause stability or change in an object's motion. They will discover how magnetic force can be used to counterbalance the force of gravity. They will create physical models, diagram models, and write, and present scientific explanations detailing how the maglev (magnetic levitation) train appears to defy gravity by floating.



Math

In November, we will be working on Topics 4-6. Students will be learning about using multiplication to divide, multiplying and dividing fluently within 100, and connecting area to multiplication and addition. We will also continue to strengthen our problem solving skills through discussions around various strategies.



Important Dates

November 6, 2018: Election Day (No School for Students)
November 12, 2018: Veterans Day (Schools Closed)
November 13, 2018: Report Card Distribution
November 15, 2018: Half Day; Parent-Teacher Conferences
November 13-16, 2018: Scholastic Book Fair
November 22-23, 2018: Thanksgiving (Schools Closed)