Third Grade Syllabus 2026-2027

Lake Forest Elementary School

Third Grade Contact Information:

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Lake Forest Elementary
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Principal: Julie Cooke
Assistant Principal: Nick Costantino
Administrative Assistant: Lauren Gilbert

Parent and Guardian Communication:

Communication between parents and teachers creates an unstoppable team!

- The weekly newsletter is sent home electronically by email and will be on our teacher websites. The newsletter contains the spelling list, curriculum information, dates to remember, and teacher contact information.
- Teachers should return emails and phone calls during planning periods and after school within 24 hours.
- Graded paperwork will be sent home by their student's teacher in their blue folder.

Parents and Guardians are provided the following opportunities to communicate and monitor their educational progress throughout the year:

- Meet the teacher
- PTA Meetings
- First Quarter Conferences
- Progress Reports/Report Cards
- Weekly Newsletters
- Study Guides
- Email
- Class Dojo

Grades

Daily work and minor quizzes will be given without a study guide. Use daily classwork sent home as a review. Study guides will be sent home for unit tests in science and social studies.

- Major grades (tests and projects) are 40% of overall grade.
- Minor grades (quizzes) are 60% of overall grade.
- Spelling grades are 10% of the language arts grade.

Grading System:

Grades are recorded in PowerTeacher per Greenville County requirements. Teachers are required to enter grades on a regular basis. Parents may view their student's grades in the **Parent Backpack** on a computer.

Grading Scale:

100-90	A
89-80	B
79-70	C
69-60	D
59-50	

Related Arts Indicators

M= Meets related arts standards
P= making progress towards related arts standards

Grading Procedures:

In each subject area, the teacher will assess the students in many different ways to accommodate all learning styles. This includes: teacher-made tests, district tests, projects, daily assignments, and online assignments. All of this will count toward the students' nine weeks grade.

Progress Reports and Report Cards

Students will receive progress reports or report cards every 4 ½ weeks.

Benchmark Testing

MVPA tests will be administered three times throughout the year. The first test is at the end of the first quarter. These tests assess Math and ELA progress. While these tests are not added to student report cards, they are an important data point for instructional planning and progress monitoring.

Standardized Testing

State Standardized testing includes the SC Ready Tests. State tests are administered in the spring and cover standards from the entire school year. The students will be tested in Reading, Math, and Writing.

Read-To-Succeed Law

The South Carolina Read to Succeed Act became law in 2014. The intent of this law is to ensure all students have the reading skills necessary to become college and career ready. This law includes *significant changes regarding students being retained in 3rd grade or promoted to 4th grade.*

Act 114 requires that beginning with the 2024-2025 school year, a student must be retained in the third grade if the student fails to demonstrate reading proficiency by scoring Does Not Meet Expectations on SC READY Reading. A student may be exempt from retention if they have a good cause exemption. Successful completion of Summer Reading camp may be one of those exemptions if students show growth on the MAP assessment given during summer camp.

Parent/Teacher Conferences

Teachers will set up conferences for each student in October. Other conferences will be scheduled as needed to discuss IEPs, Read to Succeed concerns, or 504s. If you would like to meet at any other time, please contact the teacher, and we will set up a convenient time to meet.

Attendance and Tardy Policies:

Lake Forest follows the attendance policies mandated by The School District of Greenville and the State Department of Education. Students are dismissed to the homeroom at 7:30. We start our day at 7:45. If a student has an excused absence, they have 5 days to make-up for missed work. A complete copy of the attendance policy is available on the Lake Forest website, as well as in the student handbook.

Homework Policy

Written homework will only consist of work that your student **DID NOT** finish during the school day. There will be no formally assigned written homework this year. The only formal homework your child will need to complete is to read for 20 minutes each night, study spelling words, and practice multiplication facts.

Missed Work

Work missed during a child's absence should be completed and returned within five days of the last absence.

Changes in Transportation

If your child will travel home a different way than noted on his/her transportation form, we **must be notified by written note or email the morning of**. If you are unable to send a note please call the front office by 1:45 to make them aware of the dismissal changes. Your child will be sent home by his/her usual mode of transportation until a written note is received. Car tags must be displayed in the windshield for dismissal.

Field Trips:
Parents will be notified in writing of upcoming field trips. The dates and locations of these field trips are TBD. All chaperones must be cleared as a level II volunteer which includes a background check at least **three weeks** before the trip. If a parent wishes to chaperone, he or she MUST be cleared by the office prior to the week of the field trip. All field trips are non-refundable. Lake Forest Elementary is not a banking entity to make change and therefore EXACT CHANGE is required from each student for the cost of the event.

Supplies:
Please make sure your students come prepared to school with the necessary materials to ensure maximum academic progress. Parents that cannot afford school supplies, should contact our school counselor.

- 24 Ticonderoga #2 Pencils,
- 4 Skinny Expo black dry erase markers
- 8 Elmers glue sticks
- 2 packs of Crayola Crayons (24 Count)
- 2 boxes of Kleenex
- 3 black and white marbled wide ruled composition notebooks
- 2 pocket folders with prongs (yellow and red)
- 1 pencil pouch (no boxes)
- 1 set of wired headphones

eLearning Guidelines for Inclement Weather: GCS has the option to declare eLearning days when weather or road conditions threaten safety. Because we are an approved eLearning district, this day will not have to be made up and instruction will be provided through Google Classroom. For the purpose of inclement weather days, eLearning is defined as live instruction throughout the day. This live instruction may be whole group, small group, and/or individual sessions. Students are expected to log on to the live instruction during inclement weather days. If students are unable to join the live meets due to power loss, sickness, etc., work must be made up within five days of returning to school. The state requires each district to have three potential makeup days if eLearing is not possible when school is cancelled. These makeup days are:

- Makeup Day 1: March 12, 2027
- Makeup Day 2: March 29, 2027
- Makeup Day 3: April 16, 2027

Procedures for Non-Instructional Routines:

Morning Procedures: Students will wait outside in the hallway until the 7:30 bell. Students will enter the classroom, take all necessary materials to their desk and hang their backpacks. This includes their blue communication folder. Students will complete the morning spiral review.

Blue Communication Folder: Your child will keep a blue folder to hold papers and information that goes back and forth between home and school. Your child will need to make sure that they have this with them every day at school! In third grade, students are expected to take on more responsibility, and turning in any notes, papers, and/or money to the specified location each morning before 7:55 is part of their responsibility.

Recess: 20-25 minutes of recess will be given every day. Students are expected to follow the LFE expectations listed above for proper recess behavior. The teacher will signal the students at the end of recess and students will line up immediately to enter the building.

Class Parties: Each class may have two parties during the school year. The two parties will be on the last day before winter break and on Valentine's Day.

Medications: Medications must be brought into the health room by the parent or guardian to be administered by the school nurse or other designated trained personnel. See the Lake Forest website for complete health room information and procedures. *Students are not allowed to bring medicines into school.*

Waterbottles: Water bottles should be 12 oz or smaller with a leak-proof lid. Water bottles should be labeled with your child's first and last name and be filled with only water.

Birthdays
You may send in individual treats for your child's birthday, but it must be store bought and packaged. Check with your child's teacher to ask about allergies.

Breakfast
Breakfast is FREE to all students. **Your child must be in the cafeteria by 7:45 to eat breakfast.**

Line Procedure: The teacher will call students by groups to line up in order. We walk from place to place without talking, hands and feet away from the walls. We stop at key points along the hallway, yielding to oncoming traffic.

Lunch: All student lunches are free. Snacks must be paid for through lunch accounts. Students are allowed to purchase **one extra item (ex: cookie, drink, chips)** if they have money in their lunch account. Students should eat their lunch before eating snacks.
Lunch menus will not be printed, but are available on the school website.

Presentation of Rules & Procedures: Classroom behavior skills and natural consequences are presented with the students at the beginning of the school year. Behavior skills are explained to the students and posted in the classroom at the beginning of the year, and they are practiced to reinforce understanding.

- Be Safe
- Be Respectful
- Be Engaged
- Be Kind

Behavior Policy: Lake Forest follows Conscious Discipline practices. Conscious Discipline provides an array of classroom structures that we use to turn everyday situations into learning opportunities. Our goal is to help students build skills to help them be successful. We also use a tiered behavior system that offers logical consequences. **All students are expected to follow district and school expectations outlined in the** Lake Forest Student Handbook

Here are what these steps may look like in the classroom:

1. **Reminder**: Students will be given a visual and verbal reminder of expectations.
2. **Bounce Back:** Students will take some space in another classroom to reflect and solve whatever problem they are having.
3. **Natural Consequence**: Based on whatever skills your child needs to practice, they will take time during, class, recess or at the end of the day to reflect on their behavior.
4. **Minor Offense Form**: Students will receive a Minor Offense Form for behaviors that are chronic issues. Parents will be required to sign the Minor Offense Form and return it the following day. Parents will also be contacted by phone for these minor offenses.

Money

Whenever you send money to school with your child (for lunch, field trips, Kona Ice, TCBY, etc.), please make sure to send it in a sealed envelope or ziploc bag with your child's first & last name on the front, as well as what the money is for.

Afternoon Dismissal: At dismissal time, the students remain in the classroom until the first group of students leave at 2:15 bell. This group includes: All bus riders, all daycare/van riders, walkers, Mosaic program students, and side-car riders. All front car riders will be held in a teacher's room to look for their name on the Promethean board. Once students see their name and group number, they may exit to the front of the school to get in their vehicle. School dismisses each day at 2:15 PM.

Standards: South Carolina standards can be found at: https://ed.sc.gov/instruction/standards-learning/

Curriculum*:* Lake Forest uses the following text book curriculum:

- South Carolina Studies Weekly - World Geography
- HMH Into Reading
- McGraw Hill South Carolina Reveal Math

Units Of Study : Greenville County Parent Curriculum Outline

Subject	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4
Reading	**Module 1 Character** Focus on realistic fiction Character development Plot elements Figurative language Perspective Theme **Module 2: Use Your Words** Focus on letters & poetry Elements of poetry Character development Plot elements Perspective Theme Summarize Figurative language **Module 3: Let Freedom Ring** Focus on nonfiction Central Idea Supporting details Author's purpose Author's perspective Text features Text structure Summarize Context clues	**Module 4: Stories on Stage** Focus on drama Elements of drama Figurative language Author's claim Summarize Theme **Module 5: Teamwork** Focus on realistic fiction & narrative nonfiction Literary elements Theme Figurative language Perspective Author's Claim Character development **Module 6: Animal Behaviors** Focus on nonfiction Author's purpose Author's perspective Central Idea Text Structure Text features Summarize	**Module 7: Make a Difference** Focus on narrative nonfiction & historical fiction Author's purpose Text Structure **Module 8: Imagine! Invent!** Focus on nonfiction, poetry, & opinion Author's purpose Central Idea **Module 9: From Farm to Table** Focus on informational text Text structure Central Idea Text features	**Module 10: Tell a Tale** Focus on traditional literature Figurative language Theme **Testing as a Genre Unit** Review all standards Test taking strategies **Modules 11 & 12: Genre Studies** Book clubs & review activities
Framework for Writing				

Word Study				
	Phonics Spelling patterns Syllable rules Short vowels Long vowels Decoding multisyllabic words **Vocabulary** Tier 2 vocabulary words Prefixes Suffixes **Grammar** Nouns Common Nouns Proper Nouns Commas Quotation marks Regular & Irregular verbs Verb tenses Contractions Prepositional phrases	**Phonics** Spelling patterns Syllable rules Consonant digraphs Vowel diphthongs Homophones R-controlled vowels Decoding multisyllabic words **Vocabulary** Tier 2 vocabulary words Prefixes Suffixes **Grammar** Subject Predicate Fragments Simple sentences Adjectives Compound sentences Coordinating conjunctions Contractions Run-on sentences Adverbs Comparative & superlative adverbs Complex sentences Independent & dependent clauses Subordinating conjunctions	**Phonics** Spelling patterns Syllable rules Decoding multisyllabic words **Vocabulary** Tier 2 vocabulary words Prefixes Suffixes **Grammar** Periods in abbreviations Interrogative & demonstrative pronouns	**Phonics** Spelling patterns Syllable rules Decoding multisyllabic words **Vocabulary** Tier 2 vocabulary words Prefixes Suffixes **Grammar** All standards review

Math	**Unit 1: Math Is...** Perseverance in problem solving Explain using math language Make real world connections **Unit 2: Use Place Value to Fluently Add & Subtract** Read, write numbers to 999,999 in standard, base 10, & expanded form Compare numbers Round numbers Add & subtract to 1,000 2 step problems w/ addition & subtraction Extend math patterns in addition/ subtraction **Unit 3: Multiplication & Division** Multiply 1-10 Divide 1-10 Find missing factor, product, dividend, divisor, or quotient	**Unit 4: Use Patterns to Multiply** Multiply 1-10 Whole numbers are multiples of factors **Unit 5: Using Properties to Multiply** Multiply 1-10 Commutative property Associative property Distributive property **Unit 6: Connect Area & Multiplication** Area in square units	**Unit 7: Fractions** Unit fractions Represent fractions Fractions equivalent to whole numbers Mixed numbers **Unit 8: Fraction Equivalence & Comparison** Equivalent fractions Compare fractions **Unit 9 & 10: Multiplication to Divide & Using Properties to Multiply & Divide** Multiply 1-10 Divide 1-10 Find unknown factor, product, dividend, divisor, quotient Whole numbers are multiples of factors	**Unit 11 & 12: Perimeter and Measurement & Data** Organize data in tables, picture graphs, scaled bar graphs, & dot plots Solve 1-2 step problems using data Identify possible outcomes in simple event Find perimeter Determine if real world situation needs area or perimeter Find value of coins Tell time to the 1 minute Find elapsed time Estimate liquid volume **Unit 13 & 14: Analyzing 2D Shapes & Geometric Figures** Angles Angles in 2D shapes Lines, line segments, rays, intersecting lines, perpendicular lines, parallel lines
Science	**Unit 1:** Intro to Science & Engineering Practices and Crosscutting Concepts **Unit 2:** Playground Forces	**Unit 3:** Weather Impacts	**Unit 4:** Surviving in Changing Environments	**Unit 5:** Life Cycles for Survival
Social Studies	**Unit 1:** Map Skills & Earth's Features **Unit 2:** Environment and People	**Unit 2: Part 2** Environment and People **Unit 3**: Culture and Economy Introduction	**Unit 4:** Culture and Economy	**Unit 5:** Exploring Movement and Migration