

Welcome to 3rd Grade

Dear Family,

Welcome to 3rd Grade! The Third Grade team this year is Ms. DeMeter, Mrs. Hale, Mrs. Nelson and Mrs. Paul. We know that this year is starting off unlike any other and there are many questions. We humbly ask for your patience as we navigate our way through a new beginning and get your family set up for success. This year, more than any other year, the home/school communication and connection is going to be vital!

Please read this letter carefully as it contains a lot of information.

Acellus Information

- We will be using Acellus Online Learning Platform for all students.
- Your Third Grader will be taking 4 courses;
 - Required Courses
 - 3rd Grade Common Core Language Arts/Reading, **30 minutes per day**
 - 3rd Grade Common Core Math, **30 minutes per day**
 - Additional Courses - please introduce when your child is ready. All Third Graders will add these two courses in September.
 - 3rd Grade Science, **20-30 minutes per day**
 - 3rd Grade Social Studies, **20-30 minutes per day**
- The courses are self paced, meaning they will move only as fast as your child finishes each lesson. We expect each child to spend 30 minutes everyday on the two required courses (Language Arts/Reading, and Math). If your child is ready for more, please introduce the Third Grade Science course and the Third Grade Social Studies course. Acellus is self paced so everyone may be at a slightly different spot in the curriculum based on how much time your child spends on the program
- You can decide what time works best for your family; you should schedule a total of 2 hours for Acellus learning each day.
- Need help getting started? 3rd Grade has some virtual Acellus help sessions this week:
 - Monday, Aug. 17, 3-4pm
 - Tuesday, Aug. 18, 6-7pm
 - Thursday, Aug 20, 10-11am
 - *Links will be sent out via Class Dojo and e-mail by your child's teacher.*

Attendance

Attendance will be recorded by Acellus daily. In order to ensure your child is marked PRESENT, he/she must log-on to Acellus and start a class every day before 7:00pm. If your child does not log-on to Acellus, they will be marked ABSENT.

Additional Requirements

- Virtual Class: Third Grade Homeroom teachers will hold class via Google Meets at 8:30am Mondays. *100% Distance Learners (in Mrs. Hale's class) may have a slightly different schedule.* Additional virtual class times will be set by each homeroom teacher.
- We are asking all 3rd graders to read a book for 20-30 minutes daily. If you need additional books, please contact your child's teacher.
- Journal Writing - Journal prompts have been pasted on the first page of the composition book provided. Your child could also choose to write about a current event, a book they are reading, or their feelings that day. We strongly encourage your child to write every day! If your child is struggling getting started, try talking about the topic first.

Communication

- Homeroom teachers are available via Class Dojo, Google Classroom, Email, Phone, or the messaging portal in Acellus. *We encourage you to sign up for Class Dojo, as this is the quickest way to get updates and communicate with your child's teacher.*
- Homeroom teachers will communicate with each family with your child's personal log-in information.
- Each teacher will be posting information to Google Classroom. Students should become familiar with checking Google Classroom regularly for updates, videos, and announcements. *3rd grade teachers will offer training on Google Classroom in the upcoming weeks.*
- We have a website! <https://sites.google.com/view/3rd-grade-holualoa/>

Office Hours

- We will hold office hours daily. We are happy to answer parent questions, student questions, and reteach difficult content.

Tips for setting up a home learning environment

- Find a quiet place where your child can work from every day. This space should not have toys, TV, video game consoles, etc to minimize distractions.
- Set aside a time each day when they will be working. You do not have to do all 4 courses in one block of time, set up a schedule that works best for your family, but make sure you get through 20-30 minutes of lessons in each course.
- Build stamina. Online learning will not come automatically for all students. Set a timer and see how long your child can work without getting distracted. Use this as their starting point. Slowly challenge them to work for longer periods of time. Make it a game! With practice students should be able to extend their work time.
- If you notice your child is making mistakes on the computer in the lessons that is OK. This is important information for us on what they are understanding. Please do not correct it for them. Instead, send your student's teacher a message!
- Be encouraging and positive!

'Ohana Help Desk

The 'Ohana Help Desk will be open to support students and parents:

- By phone at (808) 643-DESK (3375) Monday through Friday from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. and on Sundays from 4 to 8 p.m. The help desk will be closed on state holidays.
- Online 24/7 at ohanahelpdesk.org for self-service support and information.



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