

SURVIVAL GUIDE

Welcome to Ms. Blanton's Third Grade Class! 😊

*** Please note that all back-to-school paperwork will be filled out online. Go to <https://nhcs.net/enrollment> as soon as possible to complete this important enrollment information. ***

Classroom Routines and Information:

- Third grade is an important transition grade. This is a year when students become responsible for their own belongings, routines, assignments, and behavior. Students also routinely experience letter grades and standardized testing. Students make great strides in self-confidence and independence during this year. We are here to guide and support your child during these changes!
- Third grade is also a significant year academically. Math concepts include multiplication, division, fractions, measurement and complex word problems. Reading concepts include: critical stance, interpretation, and greater comprehension. Narrative and explanatory writing skills are honed. Non-fiction reading strategies are applied in social studies and science. We will appropriately challenge your child in each academic area, helping him or her to grow in knowledge and skills.

Our Daily Class Schedule:

<u>Daily Schedule:</u>	<u>Specials:</u>
★ 7:20-7:40 Arrival	★ <u>"C day"</u> - Music
★ 7:40-8:00 Morning Meeting	★ <u>"B" day</u> - Art/Media
★ 8:00-8:30 ELA Flex Groups	★ <u>"E" day</u> - P.E. (please wear athletic shoes)
★ 8:30-10:00 Wit and Wisdom	
★ 10:00-10:20 Math Flex and Snack	We will continue to rotate "C.B.E." each week!
★ 10:20-10:45 Science/S.S.	
★ 10:45-11:45 Math	
★ 11:45-12:10 Lunch	
★ 12:10-1:05 Foundations	
★ 1:05-1:35 Recess	
★ 1:40-2:30 Specials	
★ 2:35 Dismissal	

3rd Grade Supplies:

- 2 packs sharpened Ticonderoga pencils – standard size, yellow
- 1 pack Pink Pearl erasers
- 1 spiral notebooks, one subject – no glitter please
- 1 five subject notebook
- Plastic 5 tab binder dividers
- 1 pocket folder (solid color, no glitter)
- 3-ring binder, 1-inch, view binder, white
- zippered pencil pouch (no boxes)
- Headphones
- 4 glue sticks
- 1 pair of scissors
- 1 pack 12-count colored pencils
- 1 pack 8-markers

Additional supplies are needed and very welcome! 😊 These supplies include Expo dry erase markers, standard size Post-It sticky notes, Lysol/Clorox wipes, tissues, hand sanitizer, and liquid soap!

Arrival/Dismissal:

- ➔ Due to supervisory concerns, students may arrive no earlier than 7:20 am. The school day begins at 7:40. Students who arrive after 7:40 are considered tardy and must check in at the office before coming to class.
- ➔ Students are dismissed beginning at 2:35, depending on grade and/or means of transportation. If you need to pick up your child early from school, please go to the office first to sign your child out. **However, please note that, with the exception of emergencies, there will be no checkouts after 2:00 and no transportation changes after 2:00.** If possible, please send a note with your child when you have a change in transportation. Please remember to have your identification with you when you are picking up early. This is for the safety of all of our students!
- ➔ Please check Carolina Beach School's website for details regarding these policies. As always, parents and guardians must sign in at the office before coming to the classrooms during school hours, even if it is only to drop off or pick up a child.
 - ◆ Parents of car riders are asked to use extreme care in the pick-up line - refrain from cell phone use and pay careful attention to staff directions. For safety reasons we ask that parents remain in cars for car pick-up, rather than walking to the porch for students. **Parents must have a CBES created tag for car pick up.**

Health/Absences:

- Please inform us of any allergies or medical concerns. Prescription and all over-the-counter medications sent to school must be coordinated through our school nurse. Please see the nurse for the necessary forms.
- All absences will require a written note upon return to school. Please remember that school attendance is very important to this year's success. **Material is covered at a quick pace. Missing days, arriving late, or leaving early can result in a struggle to catch-up. We ask that appointments, trips, etc. be scheduled outside of school time.** With that being said, true medical illness cannot be avoided or predicted, so please don't stress if a day is missed for medical illness!

Newsletters: Every Monday, students will receive a newsletter in their homework folder. I will also send a copy of this newsletter as a digital copy in my weekly email to families! The newsletter includes homework for the week, announcements, reminders, and daily behavior. Students will turn in the parent-initialed newsletter the following Monday!

Folders:

- Each student will receive a Homework Folder. Homework folders go home and come back to school **every day!!** Homework folders hold homework and the newsletter for the week. All notes should be sent in homework folders and given to the teacher by the student. I do not check folders for notes. Students are responsible for bringing homework folders to school.
- **On Fridays**, students will have their finished work from the week in their homework folders. This may include tests, quizzes, or classwork. Folders will go home on the weekend and come back the first day of the next week. Please review the material weekly with your child! The most important materials to save from folders are: tests, quizzes, and study guides. All class work can be sorted and placed where you see fit.

Please help your child by encouraging them to keep track of their folders! This is a major step in developing responsibility in our classroom community. ❤️

Homework:

Most weeks, homework is assigned Monday through Thursday. This may include reading, spelling, and math. Homework assignments will be on your child's weekly newsletter. **Please check the newsletter daily!**

Homework guidelines:

- Help set up a consistent place for homework to be done.
- Help your child create a schedule for when each day's homework is to be done. Again, this is the year when your child will be establishing good study skills and taking greater responsibility for his/her class work.
- The purpose of homework is for your child to practice and use what he or she has already learned in class. **I do not assign homework on concepts that we have not already covered in class.** If your child is consistently unable to do the homework by him/herself, please contact me!
- Homework is reviewed but not graded. However, I do keep records of complete and incomplete assignments.

- **Homework is usually sent home at the beginning of the week and should be returned on Friday.** Students can and should let me know during the week if they have any problems or questions.
- Independent Reading and Math Fact Practice:
 - One of the most important factors in becoming a better reader is to read, read, read! Students will be doing some independent reading at school. Just as students practice sports and other activities to improve, improvement with reading only comes with practice.
 - Another important part of nightly homework is math fact practice. Students who are proficient with addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division facts are more likely to be successful with various math concepts. Please see Policy 7420 for our county's thoughts on homework.

Graded Assignments and Tests:

- ➔ Graded assignments will be sent home in a timely manner. Please check over this work with your child. Celebrate, support, and provide encouragement. Student grades come from formative and summative assessments. Formative assessments (60% weight) are classwork, quizzes, and weekly assignments. Summative assessments (40% weight) will be: end of module tests, unit tests, projects, and written assignments.

Grading Scale-Beginning in third grade, students are assessed in core subjects as follows:

A: 90-100 Excellent
 B: 80-89 Above Average
 C: 70-79 Average
 D: 60-69 Below Average
 F: Below 60 Failing

Our Classroom Values/Agreements: Be Safe, Be Responsible, Be Respectful, Be Kind

Behavior:

- ➔ Our class goal is to work together as a community. Working together in a productive, positive environment helps our class community function to the highest potential both academically and socially. To encourage positive behavior and good choices, our class uses Class Dojo points!
- ➔ In order to keep a positive and safe classroom environment where all students feel welcome and ready to learn, we will follow these four main "Classroom Agreements": Be Safe, Be Kind, Be Respectful, Be Responsible. Students can earn Dojo points by following our classroom agreements.
- ➔ If a student does not follow our classroom agreements, they will receive a warning first. If a student continues the undesired behavior, they will get a "ding" (a point taken away on Class Dojo).

- At the end of the week, we will review how many “dings” a student has gotten throughout the week.
- 3-5 dings for the week: 5 minutes off Friday rewards and reflection writing time
 - 6-10 dings for the week: 10 minutes off Friday rewards and reflection writing time
 - 10 or more dings for the week: 20 minutes off Friday rewards and writing reflection time

You are notified on Class Dojo when your student receives Dojo points or receives a “ding.” **Every day, the newsletter should be initialed by a parent/guardian to indicate that you have seen your student’s behavior for the day.** I keep a record of positive points and dings, as well as if the newsletter has been initialed.

**** As per our school policy, bullying and threats of any kind are not acceptable. Students who threaten or bully others will immediately visit with administration. ****

Snacks and Water:

- We are all about brain power, so we encourage healthy snacks. If you have trouble sending in a daily snack for your student, please let me know and we at the school can work together to ensure your student has a morning snack each day. Our snack time will be at 10am.
- We do not have a drinking fountain in our room. Students are encouraged to bring their own refillable water bottle. This may be refilled during the day at the water fountain if needed. No ice, sports drinks, kool-aid, drink powders, etc. If a water bottle becomes a distraction, I will ask that the bottle be kept in a book bag.

Birthdays: We enjoy celebrating our birthdays and welcome **store-bought** snacks provided for the students to share at lunch. ***Please let me know when snacks will be sent.*** Please remember that we cannot hand out birthday party invitations to any students unless the whole class is invited. For summer birthdays, we are happy to celebrate half birthdays!

What else can you do to help your child be successful this year?

- Be sure your child gets a good night’s sleep (9-11 hours recommended) and a healthy breakfast.
- Talk with your child. Have conversations about their day, your day, their feelings, current events, etc.
- Help your child understand the importance of doing their best in school.
- Encourage your child to ask questions when they do not understand.
- Support your child with a positive attitude about learning.

Thank you for taking the time to read this information. Together, we will provide a great year of learning for our students!

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me. I am looking forward to a wonderful school year together! 😊

❤ Ms. Blanton

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