

Third Grade News



Dear Third Grade Parents,

Happy New Year! We hope you had a lovely Winter Break and enjoyed spending time with your daughters!

Thank you so much to all who brought food and paper goods for our End-of-Year Breakfast. The girls enjoyed a scrumptious meal of pastries, bagels, fruit, hot chocolate and other goodies while they watched a movie and relaxed before their wonderful Holiday Sing performance.

We would also like to extend a huge thank-you to the parent drivers and chaperones who made our Chinatown field trip possible. We had a full day of exploration and learning.

Starting at the gate of Chinatown, we walked by a few landmarks on our way to the Chinese Historical Society Museum. At the museum, Charlie Chin, artist in residence, told the true story of a Chinese herb doctor's coming to "Gold Mountain" in the 1850s. We then searched for information about Chinese immigration through the various museum exhibits. After lunch, we broke into two groups and spent time walking, sketching, and tasting tea. Our day ended with recess at Portsmouth Square.

We appreciate all of your time and continued support.

Sincerely,

The Third Grade Team

Social Studies

Camera Obscura, Marcus Books and AT&T Park! These are just some of the landmarks that the third graders will be studying. The girls have been given a partner and assigned a famous landmark in San Francisco. They have begun to create landmark hats with Ms. Herman in Art.

Later in the semester, they will begin to research their landmark both in class and library and will complete a project about their landmark.

Currently, the girls are learning about the history of San Francisco's Chinatown. They are reading *Red Means Good Fortune*, a historical fiction book set in San Francisco's Chinatown in the late 1860's and will be learning calligraphy with Ms. Liang's 8th grade Mandarin class.



LANGUAGE ARTS

In Language Arts, we are continuing to concentrate on the traits of *Voice*, *Word Choice*, *Sentence Fluency*, and *Conventions*. We continue to read high interest books and practice reading comprehension strategies.

A focus of third grade is letter writing. The girls have been partnered with a classmate to brainstorm ideas and write letters to pen pals.



Ms. Howland, our Technology teacher, has been leading the girls in a pen pal writing project to 4th grade students in Glasgow, Scotland. Additionally, through the alumni office, the girls have begun to write letters to Burke's alumnae.

We encourage you to ask your daughter about what she is reading at home and at school. The girls have started keeping daily reading logs which encourage them to think about their reading in different ways and make connections to their reading.

Lights, Camera, Action!

The girls have been hard at work with play practice this month with Ms. Cynthia Whitsell, our Lower School Drama teacher. In line with our environmental theme in third grade, students will be performing "The Lorax" on **February 2nd at 8:30 am** in the Burke's lunchroom. All are welcome to attend!

MATH

We have been working on a geometry unit in math. Students have been focusing on learning about estimations, measuring and calculating perimeters and areas. They have been using objects in the classroom and at home to calculate perimeter and area. They have even calculated the area and perimeter of their own feet!



UPCOMING EVENTS

February 2nd: Third Grade Play: "The Lorax", 8:30 am

February 11th: Lion Dance Performance, 10:15-11:15 am

February 14th, 12:30-1:30 pm: Valentine's Day Party

February 18th: Grandparent and Special Friend's Day and Early Dismissal

February 21st-February 25th: February Break