

Third Grade News



MATH

We completed a unit on fractions and decimals, spent some time working with 3D solids, and are now working on a unit called *How Many Hundreds? How Many Miles?*

This unit builds on a previous unit focusing on addition and subtraction strategies through 100. We will be adding and subtracting numbers through one thousand and beyond.

We encourage you to review facts with your daughter. This includes addition and subtraction facts through 20 and multiplication facts with products up to 50.

Dear Third Grade Parents,

Following are a few of the activities the third grade has been engaging in with Ms. Gore, our school counselor, and in each section with classroom teachers.

Ms. Gore just completed her *Friendship Lunches*, during which small groups of third graders meet to discuss how to be a friend and how to make friends. She also came in to read books such as *The Recess Queen*, about bossiness and over assertiveness and its consequences; *My Secret Bully*, about bullying; and *All the Colors of the Earth*, about diversity. She also visited recently to lead a discussion about the meaning of the word "popular". Ms. Gore is always available to students for individual and small group meetings.

In class we have been focusing on different intelligences (introducing and building on Gardner's Seven Intelligences). We continue to encourage students to assess their own work, do their personal best, and compete only with themselves. Each student filled in a sociogram, which helped us better understand the social

dynamics currently going on in third grade. This provided a starting point for class discussions on recognizing commonalities and differences, listening to others' points of view, using "I" statements in the context of resolving conflict, and the importance of respect and inclusion. We are asking students to make efforts to get to know girls they may not know well and we also continue to implement the Responsive Classroom Program and conduct morning meetings during which students have many opportunities to discuss social issues and build community.

At home, you can help us by reinforcing ideas of inclusivity and respect.

Thank you for all of your support.

Sincerely,
The Third Grade Team

LANGUAGE ARTS

In language arts, we have been concentrating on the traits of *Voice, Ideas, Conventions and Organization*. The girls are working in small book groups reading high interest chapter books and practicing reading comprehension strategies such as making connections and inferences. We encourage you to talk with your daughter about the books she reads.

We are also continuing our work on nouns, verbs, adjectives and most recently adverbs. We continue to emphasize editing and proofreading strategies.



ART

The girls are enthusiastically finishing their landmark hats in Art class and they are just spectacular! The hats will be unveiled during the Arts Festival on Thursday May 19 at 5:30pm.

SOCIAL STUDIES

Our last field trip to Angel Island was a huge success. The girls learned about the Immigration Station and visited the detention barracks. This field trip marked the end of our study of Chinese immigration and the start of our study of

Japanese immigration and internment.

In class we have started reading books about both the Japanese and African-American experience in America, with a specific focus on the Fillmore neighborhood.

UPCOMING EVENTS AND DATES

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| April 13, 8:40am-10:00am | Spring Concert |
| April 15 | Spring Break |
| April 25 | Classes resume |
| May 5 | Richmond Neighborhood field trip |
| May 9-10 | Headlands overnight field trip |
| May 26 | Scavenger Hunt |
| May 27 | Early dismissal |
| May 30 | Memorial Day |



2011 Music Lunches

Our first music lunch was a great success! We were treated to several pieces including piano and violin and everyone enjoyed the performances. We look forward to our next music lunches, which will take place on the last Thursday of the month.