

August 2019

Dear Third Grader and Family,

Welcome to third grade!!! I hope you all had a relaxing and fun summer! I am delighted to welcome your child to third grade.

This year marks my thirty-third year as an elementary school teacher. I began my career in 1987 as a Science Teacher specialist and teaching full day kindergarten for eight years in a public school in Brooklyn, New York. I then moved to Scotch Plains and taught first grade at McGinn for 6 years before moving to second grade for 12 years. I then came to third grade five years ago. I am delighted to be starting my twenty-fifth year teaching at McGinn School and extremely pleased to be teaching third grade again.

I promise this will be a very fun and exciting school year! This year in science students will explore three new interactive modules where they will learn by **DOING** instead of just reading about each subject. The STEM module Motion and Matter provides grade 3 students with physical science's core ideas dealing with forces and interactions, matter and its interactions, and with engineering design. Students use their knowledge of science to enter the engineering design process and through the process refine their science understanding. The STEM Structures of Life Module will engage students in science and engineering practices to investigate structures and behaviors of the organisms and learn how some of the structures function in growth and survival. They will look at the interactions between organisms of the same kind, among organisms of different kinds, and between the environment and populations over time. In the STEM Water and Climate Module they are introduced to the nature of science, how science affects everyday life, and the influence of engineering, technology, and science on society and the natural world.

We will also work more often on the laptops in all subject areas. Get ready to read many books and study some new authors. In writing, we will write personal narratives, informational research papers, creative stories and poetry. Guess what? We will now learn how to write in cursive too!!!

Third graders will be having a mid morning snack everyday. Please remember to bring a small nutritious snack and water bottle everyday. While back to school shopping, please pick up the items indicated on the third grade supply list. It can be found on the McGinn webpage.

It is imperative that I have in writing who will be meeting your child at dismissal and be notified of any changes (play-dates etc.) if necessary! Please send a note in on the first day of school to let me know your plans for pick up and indicate if your child has permission to walk by themselves to the front or back of McGinn or attends YMCA or JCC aftercare.

I look forward to meeting all of you and a successful and fun school year!

Feel free to email me anytime with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Mrs.Chernoff

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