

# Third Grade Newsletter



November/ December 2009

Upcoming Unit is Multiplication (Dec) and Division (Jan)

**Reminder:** Your child should be practicing their facts nightly. Problem solving becomes much easier if students know their facts.

**Problem Solvers:** When students explain "Why their answer is correct", they should:

1. Use words and numbers in their explanations.
2. Use key vocabulary that is given in the question (i.e. Use what you know about place value to explain why your answer is correct).
3. Reread their answer to be sure that their thoughts are organized and their response makes sense.

**Reminder!**

## Upcoming Dates

Nov. 19, 8:00 - Visiting Astronaut  
November 23- November 24 - LSE closed /all Carroll County Schools closed (25<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup>) Happy Thanksgiving!  
Mon, Nov 30 (2:50-6:50),  
Tues, Dec. 1 (2:50-6:50),  
Conferences, call the office to sign up  
Dec. 3 - 2 hr. 45min. Early Dismissal  
Dec. 15- Winter Concert  
Dec. 22 Gingerbread House Creations (morning) and 3<sup>rd</sup> grade Holiday Celebration (afternoon)  
Dec. 23 Holiday Sing Along, 2 hr. 45 min. Early Dismissal  
Dec. 24-Jan. 3

Enjoy a Safe and Joyful Holiday with your family!



- \*As the holidays approach, continue to review with your child the importance of the LSE standards, if they are being respectful and good listeners, everything else will fall into place!
- \*As the temperature drops, we will still be going outside for recess, please be sure that your child has the appropriate outerwear.
- \*Please send in a pint sized milk carton and a can of vanilla icing (whipped seems to work best) for your child's gingerbread house.

## I.L.A. Notes

Nonfiction text will be a focus in reading as students identify organizational patterns in text. Students will also paraphrase and summarize parts of a text as we research traditions from around the world.

**Reading Strategy of the Month:** Evaluate - When students evaluate, they critically examine the author's craft and purpose for writing. Depending on the type of text, nonfiction or fiction, students should ask themselves these questions as they read:

- \*How do I feel about what I read?
- \*Do I agree or disagree with the text and what the author states?
- \*Am I learning what I want to know?
- \*How good of a job has the author done in presenting the information?

Remind your child that good readers should always stop and think about what they are reading. They should be able to support their thinking about their reading with details from the text.



## THIRD GRADE MATHEMATICS – Cluster 4

Dear Parents,

Here is what your child is learning in Third Grade, Cluster 4 along with some specific ways you can help. Look for additional newsletters for upcoming units.

### NUMBER RELATIONSHIPS – MULTIPLICATION

*Students need to:*

- Use number sentences, pictures, and drawings to represent multiplication facts up to  $9 \times 9 = 81$ .
- Memorize all multiplication facts to and including the 5's Tables.
- Identify or use the commutative, identity or zero properties for multiplication using whole numbers.
- Represent relationships using appropriate relational symbols ( $<$ ,  $>$ ,  $=$ ) and operational symbols ( $+$ ,  $-$ ) on either side.

### KEY VOCABULARY

*array:* an arrangement of objects in equal columns and rows

*Commutative Property of Multiplication-* a property of multiplication in which the product stays the same when the order of the factors is changed (i.e.,  $a \times b = b \times a$ )

*factor:* the numbers or terms multiplied in an expression. (a factor times a factor equals the product)

*Identity Property of Multiplication:* the product of any factor and 1 is that factor  $7 \times 1 = 7$

*number sentence-* an equation or inequality with numbers  $3 + 4 = 7$  or  $3 \times 4 < 15$

*product:* the result of multiplying one factor times another factor  $8 \times 8 = 64$

*Zero Property of Multiplication:* the product of a number and zero is 0  $3 \times 0 = 0$

### WAYS PARENTS CAN HELP

Once your child has memorized the facts/ uses a strategy to arrive at the fact, the following games will reinforce the facts.

- **Salute:** Use a set of playing cards without the face cards. Leave the aces in the deck, as they each count as "one." The dealer holds the playing cards being used and hands a card to each of the two players without letting anyone see the number on them. The two players then simultaneously say "Salute!" as they each hold a card to their foreheads, in such a way that they can see the opponent's card but not their own. The dealer, who can see both cards, announces the product of the two numbers, and each player tries to figure out the factor on his or her card. The player who correctly announces the first number wins both cards.
- **Multiplication War:** Children play in pairs. Shuffle the deck and deal all cards out to the two players. This game is played quite similarly to traditional "war". The players each turn a card over at the same time. The first person to correctly state the product wins the two cards. Players must say the number sentence, e.g. "9 times 2 is 18" instead of just "18". If there is a tie in naming the product, "war" begins. Each player places 2 cards face down, then they simultaneously turn 1 card face up. This continues until one of the players is quicker in giving the number sentence and product. The winner gets to keep all the cards that were placed on the table. Play ends when either player has all the cards or after an allotted time. The winner is the player with the most cards.
- **Multiplication Snap:** Players divide the cards into two piles. Cards A - 5 are in one pile, and cards 6 - 10 are in another pile. Each player has one pile of cards. At the same time, each player turns over a card. Players multiply the two cards. The first player who says the correct answer out loud, collects both cards. In the event of a tie, players leave their cards face down and let the pile build. Play resumes until one player gives the correct answer before the other and collects all of the accumulated cards. Play continues until the common piles are finished. Winner has the most cards.