



Mrs. Gracias' Classroom Highlights

Vol # 1

Sept. 6 No school, Labor Day

Sept. 7 – No School, Teacher workday

Sept. 16th– No School, Teacher Workday

Welcome to Third Grade!

* This week homework will be to sign & return the Welcome packet, & other forms sent home.

*I have enough class supplies for each student so I am not asking for any at this time; however I do have a short wish list and would appreciate any donations! The copy of my wish list is included in your child's weekly folder.

*We will learn and practice norms for resolving conflicts (The traffic lights!), Homework expectations and rewards, and desk organization this week

* Talking Points is a quick mode of communication with me, but you can also email me with any questions you may have at—jgracias@wcpss.net. I will try my best to respond as soon as possible.

* I am printing a copy of this newsletter but In the future, I will send it via Talking points. It will also be posted on my website - <https://jgracias.weebly.com/>

- Please follow our class on twitter @jgracias10
- I am very excited to get to know your child this year and help him/her have a fun learning experience!

We are learning...

- **Literacy**—This first week we will learn procedures for using I PICK rule for choosing good fit books, teacher modeled lessons, student directed activities, and All Block rotations. We will also dive into the different genres of text and work on reading stamina. Pretest will be used to assess students current understanding of comprehension skills before we start our first module next week, which is Overcoming Learning Challenges Near and Far. We will close read texts to determine the gist and lesson, and support using explicit details from the text. We will use variety of graphic organizers to record our thinking and complete vocabulary activities to learn new words in the text. Students will keep a vocabulary journal to log the new words as they learn them!
- **Math**—Our first unit of study is Using Data to solve problems. This is a fun unit to start the year as it allows completing surveys to help get to know each other and creating graphs using the data collected. Next we will solve one and two step problems using this data. This week we will start learning and practicing easier math talk strategies such as Think Pair Share, Turn and Talk, Think Aloud, Adding on, Agree/ Disagree. Later we will dive into more complex Talk strategies such as All Talk, UPS check, Talk Triangle etc. A pretest will be completed to assess prior understanding and reteaching or enrichment activities will be planned based on data. This is a short one week unit. We will start with Addition and Subtraction unit next!

Science- Our first unit of study is Bones, Muscles and Skin. We will use variety of engaging mediums such as texts, videos, diagrams, Kahoots to learn the human body systems and how they are essential for life: protection, movement and support.

I always like to start the new year with a mini citizenship unit to help students learn about collaboration, responsibilities, and following rules. We will do these integrated activities through out the first week

Students will learn and practice using the 4C's (Collaborate– Communicate– Critical Think– Create) as they learn and master new content this year and apply their learning in a variety of ways.