

Dear parents/guardians-

Welcome to our third grade classroom! I was pleased to meet many of you during the first week of school. To the parents I have not met yet-I hope to meet soon! As your child’s teacher, open communication is highly important to me. Becoming actively involved in your child’s learning experience will allow for a successful year. I am very excited to work with your child!  
 Below, you will find information regarding our typical week, links, policies, and more! The purpose of this flyer is to provide you with a general sense of our year. Please take a look and let me know if you have any questions!  
  
A Sneak Peek at Our Week… **Math**

* 2 periods every day (morning instruction)
* Students will be given daily mental math practice for the first 10 minutes of every class
* The typical format for math class is as follows: group instruction/lesson, guided practice, independent practice (from textbook and workbook), and assigned homework
* At the end of each chapter, students will be given a test

**English**

* English will be broken down into two separate periods each day; one for reading and one for   
   writing/spelling/grammar (morning instruction)
* Reading

- Each week, we will focus on a new story from the Reading Street textbook. With every story, there is an accompanying comprehension skill, comprehension strategy, and vocabulary strategy

- Every Friday students will be given a printed copy of the story that we will read in class next week. These printed copies are to be returned to the teacher after the story and test is complete. Since students cannot bring the hard cover book home with them, they should use this copy to help them study and review.

- After each story, students will be evaluated via the Selection Test. This test is designed to assess their knowledge of the vocabulary skill, as well as story comprehension.

* Writing  
  - Students will be given a daily writing activity to complete in their journals. For the upper grade levels, students are to write one paragraph (5 sentences). The prompts selected for these journal entries will focus on a different ‘trait of writing’. This year, students will learn/incorporate the following traits of writing: voice, ideas, presentation, conventions, organization, word choice, and sentence fluency.
* Spelling  
  - Each week students will be given a list of spelling words (15 ‘normal’ words and 5 challenge words). They will be tested on these words on Friday. We will discuss the spelling skill in class, and students will use their workbook to reinforce the concepts. There are 4 workbook pages that accompany each weekly spelling focus. One page of spelling practice per day will be assigned for classwork/homework.
* Grammar  
  - Each week a new grammar skill will be introduced. I will conduct a grammar lesson with the students, and they will utilize their grammar workbooks in class/for homework to practice. Like the spelling workbook, there are 4 pages designed to reinforce the skill. Typically, one page of grammar per night will be assigned in order for them to master the skill. On Fridays, students will be given a grammar worksheet to complete individually in class. This will count as a graded classwork assignment.

**Social Studies and Science**

* Alternating classes (‘flip flop’): For example, social studies may take place on M, W, F and Science may take place on Tues, Thurs, and the following Monday
* We will begin with group instruction and have an interactive, discussion based class
* Students will take note of important concepts presented in the lessons/class
* Students will be provided with workbooks for both of these subjects. The workbook pages will mainly be assigned as independent class work (some to be graded)
* At the end of each chapter, students will be given a test

**Specials**

* Students enjoy gym (Wednesdays), art (Thursdays), and library time (final day pending)!

**Homework**

* I have provided each student with a *homework notebook*, which they should keep in their *Homework/Home Communication folder*. Each day, I will write down the homework for students to copy. Homework will also be posted on our classroom website.
* Students will be responsible for reading 15 min/night. In order to become better reads, we must practice. As time passes, students will work to increase their reading stamina. Each week, I will provide students with a ‘Reading Log’. They are to inform their parent/guardian BEFORE they begin their nightly reading (so the parent/guardian can ‘sign off’ to confirm)

**Textbooks**

* Students receive math, reading, science and social studies textbooks and matching workbooks. The hardcover text books will live at school. They are NOT allowed to go home. However, the matching workbooks may go home. Even though textbooks cannot go home students do have online access to materials. You should already have this account info, but in the case you do not please contact me ASAP.

**Grading**

* Tests and in-class projects: 60%
* Classwork, effort/participation: 40%

**Classroom Rules**  
1) Follow directions quickly  
2) Raise your hand for permission to speak  
3) Raise your hand for permission to leave your seat  
4) Mark smart choices  
5) Keep your teacher happy ☺

**Behavior Policy**1) Verbal warning  
2) If disruption continues, students are asked to rethink their behavior and given an opportunity to correct their action  
3) If repeated disruption occurs and it is affecting the learning experience of other students, the student will receive a short note to go home. It MUST be signed by the parent/guardian and returned the next day

**Contact**

* Email: [swalsh@iane.org](mailto:swalsh@iane.org)
* Phone: 781-784-0400 (Main Office)
* Meeting: If you wish to schedule a meeting, please email me and I will be more than happy to set something up. I have a planning period from 9:50-11:10.

**Additional Information**

* Students enjoy two short recesses on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday. Due to morning assembly on Monday and Friday, students will only have one. As an incentive, students may be rewarded with extra time or an additional recess during the day
* The arrival time this year is 7:50 AM sharp. Teachers begin instruction promptly at 8:00 AM. If a student arrives after 8:05, they will be marked tardy
* Dismissal begins at 2:50 PM
* Assembly days: Monday and Friday. For Monday assembly, students should be dropped off at the lower elementary building. On Fridays, they should be dropped off at the upper grade building

## Links *(Can also be found on our class website)* Classroom website: [www.walshgrade3iane.weebly.com](http://www.walshgrade3iane.weebly.com) - Daily homework, upcoming assignment/test dates, weekly/ monthly newsletters, and other important information. I will be updating the website weekly. Jupiter Ed: <https://login.jupitered.com/login/> - Log in anytime to check your child's current grades, homework, missing assignments, test scores, and report cards. Jupiter is also a main source of communication between the teacher, students, and parents. You will receive your account information in a separate message. If you are having difficulty with Jupiter Ed or are a new user (and having difficulty), please contact the main office.

## Interactive Science: <https://www.pearsonrealize.com/> - Students have been provided with their individual login information to access their science book online. If you no longer have this information, or have questions/problems with the site, please let me know and I can redirect you.

## Think Central (Math): <https://www-k6.thinkcentral.com/ePC/start.do> - Think Central is the website students use for online math access. The IANE office will administer a username and password for your child. Please keep this login information in a safe place. If you are having trouble signing in or have any questions, please contact the Main Office.