

WELCOME TO BACK TO SCHOOL NIGHT!

September 1, 2011



Mrs. Stuart

Third Grade

St. Gregory School

Third Grade Instructors

Mrs. Cynthia Stuart	3rd Grade Teacher
Mrs. Theresa Wills	Assistant Teacher
Mrs. Pilarica Crocker	Computer
Mr. Eddie Ford	P.E.
Mrs. Donna Bruno	Music

Third Grade Schedule

Opening exercises:	8:00 - 8:15 a.m.
Recess/snack	10:00 – 10:15 a.m.
Lunch	12:00 – 12:30 p.m.
Closing exercises:	2:50 - 3:00 p.m.

Morning:

Religion	Monday – Friday
Reading/ Phonics	Monday – Friday
Language Arts	Monday – Friday
Step Up To Writing	Tues-Friday (small groups)
Library/Computer	Thursday (small groups)

Afternoon:

Math	Monday – Friday
Social Studies	Monday, Tuesday & Thursday
Science	Wednesday & Friday
P.E.	Tuesday & Thursday
Music	Thursday

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THIRD GRADE

WEEKLY WORK FOLDER: Papers will be sent home almost every Monday in a manila file folder. Look them over, sign the sheet inside the folder, and send the folder back to school the following day with any comments you may have.

ASSIGNMENT BOOK: The assignment book will have all assignments written in it. It is your child's responsibility to complete this work by the due date. I will look at the book every day and I would like each parent to sign the book every day. Any communication between parent and teacher may be taken care of through this book. I am also available for conferences almost anytime.

CLASSROOM NOVELS: We will be reading one classroom novel this year. This novel will be taught in addition to the regular reading. The novel is *Charlotte's Web* by E.B. White.

TARDY POLICY: A student is considered tardy after 8:00 a.m. Students who are tardy must report to the morning yard supervisor at the gate on flagpole days or the office for a pink admittance slip on the other days. They will also be benched for recess that day. If tardiness continues, parents will be notified and called in for a conference with the principal. These rules also apply to transitions between classes.

FIELD TRIPS: We will have five field trips this year. They are explained in the attached letter.

BIRTHDAYS: Students are asked not to pass out invitations in school. Students may bring treats to school for their birthdays. Please let me know in advance. Please send individual treats for birthdays. We will celebrate summer birthdays on the child's half birthday.

UNIFORMS: Please make sure your child is in complete uniform everyday. Check the parent/ student handbook for specific guidelines.

MATH: (*Scott Foresman-Addison Wesley: Envision Math*) There will be homework almost every night in math. Homework will not be graded, only corrected. This means that if it is incomplete it will be counted a "0.5." The children will be graded on daily in-class work, and assessment tests will be given every five or six lessons. This year students will memorize addition and subtraction facts 1-18. The students will also be memorizing multiplication facts 0-12. Memorizing multiplication facts will begin in September and facts will be mastered by June. There will be weekly quizzes on Thursday.

READING: (*Harcourt Brace: Signatures*) These topics will be covered in third grade: comprehension skills, dictionary skills, phonics, and strengthening listening skills. Monthly reading logs and book reports will be assigned. Students will also be taking part in the leveled reading/Raz-Kids program.

ENGLISH: (*Houghton Mifflin*) The following will be covered in third grade: sentences, nouns, verbs, pronouns, paragraphs, adjectives, poems, writing letters, journal writing and writing short stories. There will be weekly /biweekly quizzes.

SPELLING: (*Scott Foresman: Everyday Spelling*) We will cover daily written assignments and the students will be given a spelling quiz every Friday. The basic list and reading vocabulary words will be included.

HANDWRITING: (*Zaner Bloser*) We will begin handwriting on September 6. We will begin by reviewing the manuscript alphabet.

STEP UP TO WRITING: (*Sopris West by Maureen E. Auman*) Step Up to Writing instruction will begin the week of September 12, but writing will be incorporated into the curriculum from the beginning of the school year.

RELIGION: (*RCL Benziger: Blest Are We*) This year we will focus on celebrating the Church year, Catholic heritage, and Mass preparation.

SOCIAL STUDIES: (*Scott Foresman*) These areas will be covered: California Indians, history, geography, economics, constitutional heritage and citizenship.

SCIENCE: (*Scott Foresman*) These topics will be covered this year: energy, light, matter, living in different environments, living things in a world of change, objects in space, and patterns in the sky. Students will be doing hands on experiments throughout the year.

PHONICS: (*Modern Curriculum Press*) We will begin Phonics tomorrow, Sept. 2. Each unit will begin with a pretest. Our first unit will be on consonants.

St. Gregory School Grading Scale

96 – 100 A

93 – 95 A-

91 – 92 B+

87 – 90 B

84 – 86 B-

81 – 83 C+

74 – 80 C

70 – 73 C-

67 – 69 D+

63 – 66 D

60 – 62 D-

Below 60 F



September 1, 2011

Dear Third Grade Parents,

This year the third grade class will go on five exciting field trips. Our first trip will be to the Woodside Store. We will discover life in the 1880s, learn about the redwood industry, and explore three different activity stations. Later in the year we will visit the San Mateo History Museum and view the beautiful Old County Courthouse rotunda. While at the museum, we will learn how the natural resources of San Mateo County have been used by its residents throughout history, in a special program called "Providing Plenty." Both these field trips relate to the third grade Social Studies curriculum.

We will visit two science museums this year. At the Lawrence Hall of Science we will experience the exhibits as well as a hands on workshop on Animal Classification. At the California Academy of Sciences we will explore the rain forest and go on "A Tour of the Solar System," an additional program. Both these trips enrich our Science curriculum.

We will also attend a performance that relates to our fairy tale unit in Language Arts. Third graders will enjoy the California Theatre Center's presentation of "Jack and the Beanstalk" at the Sunnyvale Community Center Theater.

Our schedule of events and dates are listed below:

Fri., Nov. 11, 2011	Woodside Store
Wed., Feb. 15, 2012	Lawrence Hall of Science
Tues., Mar. 6, 2012	San Mateo History Museum
Thurs., Apr. 19, 2012	"Jack and the Beanstalk"
Tues., May 29, 2012	California Academy of Science

To cover the cost of these trips (and parking), we are asking for **\$60** from each student. Please send a check, made out to **St. Gregory School**, in an envelope labeled "Third Grade Field Trips" to our classroom by Friday, **September 9, 2011**. This will make it possible for us to meet the pre-payment requirements for the scheduled field trips.

Thank you in advance for our cooperation. We are looking forward to an exciting field trip schedule.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Stuart and Mrs. Wills

September 1, 2011

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to the new school year! I am happy to work with you and your child in third grade. I will assist Mrs. Stuart with all subjects in the classroom. I will also teach phonics, handwriting, and Step Up to Writing in small groups.

The materials used and curriculum for each subject are listed below.

Phonics, Modern Curriculum Press (workbook)

A complete phonics and word study program will be used. Children will complete lessons on consonants and vowels, as well as words with suffixes, prefixes, contractions, and compound words among other topics.

Handwriting, Zaner Bloser (workbook)

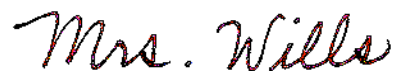
Students will review the manuscript alphabet and will be introduced to the cursive alphabet. The four keys to legibility (shape, size, spacing, and slant) will be emphasized.

Step Up to Writing: Intermediate Level, developed by Maureen E. Auman, Spris West (Students will use a spiral notebook for their notes and writing.)

A step-by-step approach to learning the writing process will be used. Students will learn to write paragraphs, narratives, creative pieces, and letters, as well as strengthen their note taking, summarizing, and dictionary skills.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at school or via e-mail. My e-mail address is: twills@stgregs-sanmateo.org.

Sincerely,



Mrs. Theresa M. Wills