

Campbell Christian School

2008-09 Parent Orientation

Third Grade
Mr. Keirstead

Telephone: 370-4900

General questions call:	Ext. 221
Financial questions call:	Ext. 222
To leave a message for: Mr. Keirstead	Ext. 247

August 2008

Dear Parents,

I am so blessed to be your child's teacher this upcoming school year. Third grade is an exciting and important year for students – an opportunity for them to strengthen reading and language skills while learning many new concepts in math and penmanship.

While in college, I felt God's calling to become a teacher. Four years ago He brought me to Campbell Christian School to work in the Extended Care Program. Last year, having completed Bethany University's teaching program, I was given the awesome privilege of substituting for Mrs. Lautenslager, at a school that allowed me to emphasize spiritual, moral, and academics values. It is my great pleasure to continue teaching third grade, in what promises to be another great year.

Third grade will include the following educational highlights for your child:

BIBLE - A sequential study of Judges through David, the second king of Israel. The third quarter will include a study of the life of Jesus and the fourth quarter a study of the book of Acts.

MATH - The Saxon math program includes multiplication skills (0-9x facts), division (one-digit divisors with remainders), regrouping to tens, hundreds, and thousands in addition and subtraction, fractions, decimals, time, money, measurement, square roots, and word problems.

READING - Word study skills including prefixes, suffixes, syllabication, and analogies; Study skills including use of dictionary and encyclopedia; Critical reading skills include sequencing, main idea, detail and inferencing. Appreciation of various types of children's literature will be included in the Houghton Mifflin Reading program.

SPELLING, ENGLISH, WRITING - Skills will be taught using Houghton-Mifflin materials. This program includes a continued study of the parts of speech, capitalization and punctuation rules, plus sentence and paragraph structure. There will be frequent creative writing assignments, book reports, and a research paper.

PENMANSHIP - D'Nealian modern manuscript will be taught starting the first week of school.

SCIENCE - A God-centered science program including the study of rocks and minerals, volcanoes, plants, vertebrates, invertebrates, biomes (tropical and temperate rain forests, deserts, grasslands, taiga, polar regions, oceans), the solar system, heat and temperature, water cycle and weather.

SOCIAL STUDIES - Our textbook is Houghton Mifflin's History of Social Science-Communities. Student's learn basic geography skills and terms as well as map skills. Topics include: Our Community and Geography, American's Early Communities, People Move from Place to Place, Community Government, Making Economic Choices, and Celebrating People and Culture. We will also be studying various countries around the world.

MISCELLANEOUS ACTIVITIES - Include art, music, library, computer, and physical education. Tentative field trips this year include the San Francisco Zoo, and the Monterey Bay Aquarium.

It is my prayer that your child will have a successful year in third grade, both academically and spiritually. Please feel free to contact me at any time if you have questions or concerns. I am looking forward to teaching your child this year.

Blessings to you,

Dustin Keirstead

HOMWORK REQUIREMENTS FOR THIRD GRADE:

- Homework will be assigned Monday through Thursday nights. Assignments for third grade will average thirty to forty minutes a night.
- A weekly assignment/test schedule will be sent home each Friday. **Parents need to sign the slip at the bottom of the homework schedule and return it to school on Monday.** The top portion of the sheet may be kept at home for daily referral.

Students are responsible for:

- Taking home necessary materials and returning work and textbooks to school.
- Returning assignments on date due. Parents will be notified if homework has not been returned.
- Writing name/correct heading on all papers.

Students will be bringing home various notes, folders, and tests requiring parent signature. Please sign these and give them to your child to return to school the next day. Students earn tickets for returning these papers promptly.

WORK FOLDERS:

- Weekly work will be sent home on Fridays.
- Please sign the Friday folder after looking through your child's work. Students are responsible for returning the folder to school on Monday.
- Students should correct papers marked "Please Correct" and return them with their folder. All other papers may be kept at home. Students earn tickets for returning corrected work on Mondays.
- Stamped papers were completed in class as group work and are not recorded in the grade book.
- Tests, class work and homework count toward a student's grade.

GRADING:

- Report cards are issued quarterly (every nine weeks).
- Mid-quarter progress report will be sent home to any student scoring below 80% in any subject area. You may check with me at any time regarding your child's progress.
- The grading scale is as follows:
 - 90-100% = A
 - 80 - 89% = B
 - 70 - 79% = C
 - 60 - 69% = D
 - Below 60 = F

RESEARCH PROJECTS/WRITING SKILLS:

1. Written encyclopedia report and diorama on a vertebrate (mammal, fish, bird, reptile, or amphibian)
2. Creative writing assignments with illustrations
3. Poetry assignments
4. Six chapter autobiography
5. Fiction and non-fiction book reports.
 - a. Third graders are required to read and report on at least one chapter book a month. Chapter books should be at least 45 pages in length and suitable to the student's reading level.
 - b. Students will be given a one-page book report form at the end of the second week of each month. This form needs to be completed neatly and turned in the last school day of the month.

Book Report Monthly Requirements:

- Sept. Fiction book/written report
- Oct. Fiction book/written report
- Nov./Dec. Non-fiction book/written report
- Jan. Fiction book/oral report and a poster
- Feb. Biography/written report
- March Fiction book /written report
- April/May Written research report on a vertebrate.
(Details will be sent home in March.)

Book It

- Participation in the monthly Book It Program is mandatory.

GRADE 3 SUPPLIES

Mr. Keirstead's Class

- 2 dozen (sharpened or unsharpened) pencils, (#2 ONLY) **please do not label** Erasers
- 1 small self-contained pencil sharpener (preferably Fiskars) labeled with child's name
- 1 pair of scissors (preferably Fiskars)
- 2 glue sticks
- 1 box (12 colors) colored pencils (preferably Crayola)
- 1 box of 24 crayons (preferably Crayola)
- 1 package (at least 12) fine point markers
- 1 supply box (Note: Keep size small as it must fit into desk.)
- 3-hole lined wide ruled filler paper in a pocket folder (single sheets only)
- 2 folders with pockets (to use as homework folder and for storing paper)
- NO binders as they do not fit in desks.
- Multiplication flashcards (for practice at home)
- 1 boxe of tissue (200 + count)
- 2 containers of Clorox Wipes