



2025-2026
3rd grade with
Ms. Attell



Carrie Attell's Contact Information



Email: cattell@smfcsd.net

School office phone: (650) 312-7566

Classroom phone: (650) 638-2981

*My classroom phone will not ring during school hours. Only the office can call into my room. You can leave a message and I will check it as soon as I can. Email is a quick and easy way to contact me.

Tonight's Agenda

- Daily Schedule
- Curriculum Overview
 - Homework
- Classroom Management
 - Attendance
- Parent Conferences
 - Email
 - Field Trips
 - Special Events

Time	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
8:35-9:00	Morning Meeting	Morning Meeting	Morning Meeting	Morning Meeting	Morning Meeting
9:00-10:20	ELA - Writing	ELA	ELA	Art / Lego (9:20 - 10:20)	ELA
9:50-10:20	ELA	ELA	ELA		Library (9:50-10:20)
10:20 - 10:40	RECESS	RECESS	RECESS	RECESS	RECESS
10:40 - 11:45	Music (10:45 - 11:15)	Math	Math	Math	Math
11:45-12:25	Math (11:15-12:25)	Science or SS	Science or SS	Science or SS	Science or SS
12:25-1:20	LUNCH	LUNCH	12:45 DISMISSAL	LUNCH	LUNCH
1:20-2:20	P.E./DELD	P.E./DELD		P.E./DELD	P.E./DELD
2:20 - 2:40	Literacy Centers	Literacy Centers		Literacy Centers	Literacy Centers
2:40-2:55	Read Aloud	Read Aloud		Read Aloud	Read Aloud
2:55	Dismissal	Dismissal		Dismissal	Dismissal

Math Scope and Sequence:

Math mindset routine--10 minutes,
Facilitated concept exploration - 25
minutes, Independent digital practice -
25 minutes, Lesson synthesis - 5 min.

Writing: Opinion on topics or texts,
Informative/ Explanatory Text,
Narratives including fiction and
nonfiction - (Shared, Interactive,
Modeling, Independent practice)

DELD: Focus Language Study
directly connected to content,
Centers - skilled aligned instruction

ELA/ Knowledge Building:

Foundational Skills - 20 minutes
(phonics, affixes, multisyllabic words)
Fluency - 15-20 minutes,
Read Alouds 20-30 minutes - Twig
and/or Benchmark (Text sets for
Knowledge Building for nonfiction)
Fiction sets from Benchmark,
Close Reading - 15 -20 minutes,
Shared Reading 10 minutes - poems,
chants, call and response. (Twig,
Benchmark, PAF)

Spelling

- Focus on phonics, word patterns, dictionary skills
- 3rd grade sight words
- Academic vocabulary



Writing

The Writing Process:

- Gathering ideas
- Prewriting
- Drafting
- Revising
- Editing
- Publishing



*We will be practicing “quick writes” to prompts from Benchmark.

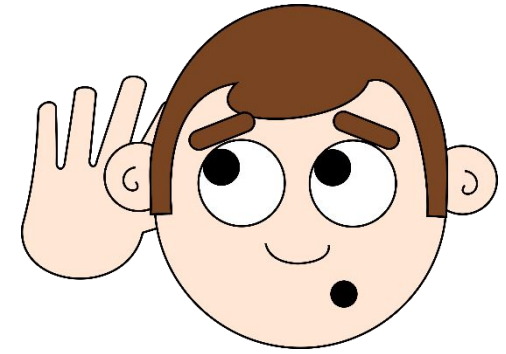
Writing Standards

- Narratives
- Informational - Biographies
- Response to Literature
- Opinion





Speaking and Listening Skills



- Every student is afforded the opportunity to give oral presentations.
- Every student is expected to listen critically and respond appropriately to oral communication.
- Classroom participation is highly encouraged!

Library/Computer

In the library:

- Students will visit the library
- Students will choose at least one “just right” book for reading enjoyment and/or research. The second book may be chosen for shared reading at home or enjoyment and can be any level.

Computer lessons in the classroom:

- Word processing skills will be practiced.
- Educational curriculum sites will be explored.
- Students will use the Internet to research.
- Students will create presentations from their reports
- Digital citizenship curriculum is discussed and practiced to help students become responsible users of technology.

Math

- Zearn is our district's adopted math curriculum.
- All students will have a workbook and an online practice component.
- Students will use dry erase boards for quick computations during lessons.
- Students will participate in mathematical activities and discussions to increase critical thinking and problem solving.
- ST Math





Science

Units of study:

- The Ultimate Playground
- Welcome to the Biodome
- How to Survive an Ice Age
- Weather Warning HQ

Science is taught using Twig Science

Twig Science is the district adopted curriculum. Twig is aligned to the NGSS (Next Generation Science Standards) which emphasizes on crosscutting concepts, disciplinary core ideas, engineering, technology, and applications, as well as California environmental principles and concepts.

Social Studies

Units:

- Geography and Map Skills
- Geography of California
- San Mateo County History
- Native People
- Pioneers
- Basic Government
- Economy of the local region
-



We have new Social Studies curriculum to try out this year called, Social Studies Alive!

Physical Education

- PE is taught for 30 minutes a day by Coach Moe from 1:20 - 2:20.
- We will not have PE on Wednesdays.
- Children must wear appropriate shoes for physical activity.



Life Skills

Our social skills curriculum emphasizes the development of positive character traits with the goal of creating socially responsible children.

- Soul Shoppe Assemblies
- Classroom discussions and projects
- Second Step; a social emotional program that takes “A holistic approach to building supportive communities for every child through social-emotional learning.”
- PBIS (Positive Behavioral Intervention Support)

Homework

- Homework is assigned Monday – Thursday.
- Homework is approximately 30-40 minutes and meant to be additional practice and review of the day's lessons.
- Please check in with your child that homework is correct, neat, and complete **every night. Homework will always be found in the Purple Classroom Connector folder.**
- You can support your child by helping them create a routine for completing and organizing their homework to ensure it's in their backpack to bring to school the next day

Homework

Homework will consist of:

- Nightly math assignment (review of a previous lesson)
- Minimum of 30 minutes of reading every night
- Reading during the week is required, reading on the weekend is encouraged
- Nightly reading logs with adult initials
- Other relevant work around Language Arts (occasional)

Classroom Management

- Classroom procedures and standards of behavior are based on respect, responsibility, and cooperation with each child doing their personal best.
- Positive behavior is recognized, negative behavior is discussed with the individual in a timely manner.
- Tables may also receive points and prizes once hitting a certain number of points.
- The class takes brain breaks and times to move and stretch throughout the day

Negative Behavior

- Possible consequences of negative behavior may involve the student using recess time to discuss and resolve the issue.
- We resolve conflicts using our life skills and Soul Shoppe strategies.
- Parents will be notified if a behavior needs to be discussed at home.
- If needed, meetings can be arranged to resolve ongoing issues.
- We appreciate your support in having consistent expectations at home and school, appropriate consequences, and communication with your child in order to have a successful year.

Attendance

- Regular and timely attendance is extremely important to your child's education.
- Late arrivals to class are very disruptive and discouraged.
- School begins promptly at 8:35 and ends at 2:55.
- Please try to schedule appointments after school
- Please call the office or send an email to Ms. Fieon Yu or Mrs. Erica Fowler and me if your child is going to be absent (650) 312-7566.
- Please try to contact me in a note, call, or email if your child will be absent, arriving late, or leaving early so I can make sure the transition is smooth and not disruptive.

Attendance Achievement by Month

What is Chronic Absence? **MISSING 2 OR MORE DAYS PER MONTH**

Including both excused & unexcused absences

Strive For Under 5!

Where are you?

End of Month	GOOD	AT-RISK	CHRONIC
August	0	1	2 or more
September	1 or less	2	3 or more
October	2 or less	3-4	5 or more
November	3 or less	4-6	7 or more
December	4 or less	5-8	9 or more
January	5 or less	6-10	11 or more
February	6 or less	7-12	13 or more
March	7 or less	8-14	15 or more
April	8 or less	9-16	17 or more
May	9 or less	10-17	18 or more

ATTENDANCE

in the early grades

Many of our youngest students miss 10 percent of the school year—about 18 days a year or just two days every month. Chronic absenteeism in kindergarten, and even preK, can predict lower test scores, poor attendance and retention in later grades, especially if the problem persists for more than a year. Do you know how many young children are chronically absent in your school or community?

Who Is Affected

Kindergarten and 1st grade classes often have absenteeism rates as high as those in high school. Many of these absences are excused, but they still add up to lost time in the classroom.

1 in 10 kids

in kindergarten and 1st grade are chronically absent. In some schools, it's as high as 1 in 4.¹



2 in 10 low-income kids miss too much school. They're also more likely to suffer academically.¹



2.5 in 10 homeless kids are chronically absent.²



4 in 10 transient kids miss too much school when families move.²



¹ Chang, Hedy; Romero, Mariajose, Present, *Engaged and Accounted For: The Critical Importance of Addressing Chronic Absence in the Early Grades*, National Center for Children in Poverty: NY: NY, September 2008.

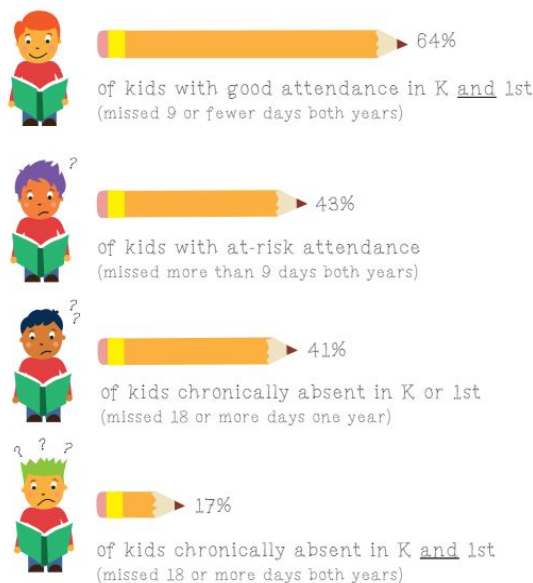
² *Chronic Absence in Utah*, Utah Education Policy Center at the University of Utah, 2012.

Why It Matters

If children don't show up for school regularly, they miss out on fundamental reading and math skills and the chance to build a habit of good attendance that will carry them into college and careers.

Preliminary data from a California study found that children who were chronically absent in kindergarten and 1st grade were far less likely to read proficiently at the end of 3rd grade.

Who Can Read on Grade Level After 3rd Grade?³



³ *Attendance in Early Elementary Grades: Association with Student Characteristics, School Readiness and Third Grade Outcomes*, Applied Survey Research, May 2011.

What We Can Do



Engage Families

Many parents and students don't realize how quickly early absences can add up to academic trouble. Community members and teachers can educate families and build a culture of attendance through early outreach, incentives and attention to data.



Fix Transportation

The lack of a reliable car, or simply missing the school bus, can mean some students don't make it to class. Schools, transit agencies and community partners can organize car pools, supply bus passes or find other ways to get kids to school.



Address Health Needs

Health concerns, particularly asthma and dental problems, are among the leading reasons students miss school in the early grades. Schools and medical professionals can work together to give children and families health care and advice.



Track the Right Data

Schools too often overlook chronic absence because they track average attendance or unexcused absences, not how many kids miss too many days for any reason. Attendance Works has free data-tracking tools.

These are a few steps that communities and schools can take. How do you think you can help?

Parent Conferences

- October 10, 13, 14, 16, and 17th from (to). There will be a few slots from 4-6 PM on the 16th.
- Conferences will be 20 minutes.
- Please be on time. I am unable to extend your time if there is a family waiting after your scheduled time.
- We know things come up, if you need to reschedule a conference, please let us know as soon as possible.

Email

- The best and most convenient way to contact me is through email or parent square.
- If you have not yet, please give me your email address
- My school email address is:
cattell@smfcsd.net
- If you need to meet with me, please make an appointment.



Meadow Heights PTA

The Meadow Heights Parent Teacher Association (PTA) is dedicated to supporting our school, the students, our teachers/staff and all families.

The Meadow Heights PTA:

- **Plans** community events and activities
- **Provides funding** for school programs & enrichment for students
- **Organizes volunteers** to run events, help in classrooms & support the school
- **Sends communications** to help families stay informed and connected
- **Arranges staff appreciation** activities throughout the year
- **And so much more!**

Please support our community by sharing your time, talents and donations!

Visit www.meadowheights.org to get started!

Your donations & volunteer time helped make these activities possible last year...

Field Trips & Assemblies



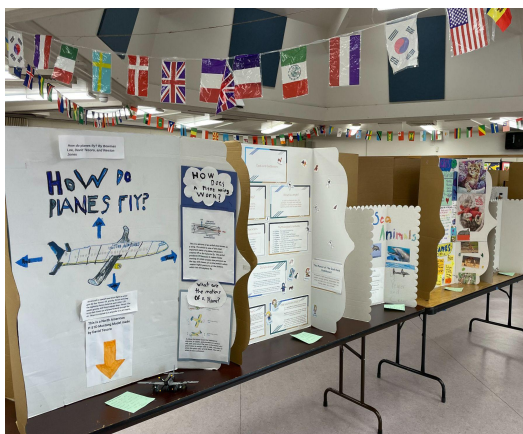
Art & Music Class



Lego Lab



And so much more!



Help us make these possible again this year!
Sign up for PTA today!

Knowledge Fair & Stampede

Field Trips

- We will be looking into a few field trips this year. Field trips are meant to be educational and engaging. More to come soon!
- Chaperones will be needed!



Scheduled Events

Spring Into History Wax Museum is a fun project your third graders get to participate in. They will research and write a biography on a person who has made a difference on society and create a poster to showcase the research they have done. They will then get to dress up as their character and share this with parents and students as part of a wax museum. This event will be in the Springtime.

Classroom Parties

- We have a school and district policy regarding food items for both holiday and birthday parties.
- Winter Holiday party
- Valentine's Day party
- End of School Year party
- All food items must be store bought with ingredients listed.



Birthday Celebrations

- Your child may bring non-food items (like pencils, stickers, or bookmarks) to share with the class on his/her birthday.
- Please bring items that are easy to distribute.
- Please let me know ahead of time if you want to bring an item in for your child's birthday.
- **Although we will no longer have food items for celebrations please let me know if your child has a severe food allergy or restrictions, ASAP.**



Thank you for joining tonight. If you should have any more questions, do not hesitate to ask. We are looking forward to a wonderful and successful year with you and your child.