



Third Grade Newsletter

January 2026

Happy New Year!

Important Dates

January 5th: Happy New Year! Schools Reopen

January 14th and 15th: Math Mid-Year Benchmark Assessment

January 16th: Early dismissal for students. Dismissal begins at 12:20

January 19th: Schools & Offices Closed--Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday

January 23rd: End of Marking Period #2

January 26th: Schools Closed for Students

January 30th: Report Cards go home

Reminders

Please make sure your child brings a jacket or sweatshirt to school. Students will be outside for recess on most days.

Please continue to monitor your child's pencil pouch for any needed supplies.

We've seen lots of new watches on the students after the holidays! Please remind your child that watches are only to be used for telling time while in school. No texting, picture taking, or internet searches are allowed during the school day.

What are we learning?

Math

This month in math we will continue to work on our Multiplication and Division Unit while we prepare for our Mid-Year Assessment. This benchmark test will cover concepts from our first four units. The test is scheduled for January 14th and 15th. Benchmark review calendars were sent home in December. This is a great way to review a little at a time. Please have your child let their teacher know if they've misplaced their calendar!

Science

In science we are beginning our Forces and Interactions unit. In this unit students will:

- Describe a force as a push or a pull.
- Explain unbalanced and balanced forces using a force diagram.
- Explain how forces of gravity and air resistance work on a falling object.
- Provide evidence that a pattern can be used to predict future motion.
- Determine cause and effect relationships of electric or magnetic interactions between two objects not in contact with each other.
- Define a simple design problem that can be solved by applying scientific ideas about magnets.

Please see the attached parent letter for more information.

Humanities

In Social Studies, we will be learning about Martin Luther King Jr and his contributions to our country. In ELA, we will be working on reading fairy tales and folktales and understanding characters' perspectives.

Stay in Touch!

Please reach out to your child's teacher with any questions or concerns!

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Third Grade Science

Force and Interactions

Dear Families,

Here is what your child is learning in Third Grade during the study of force and interactions and some specific ways you can help. Look for additional newsletters for upcoming units.

Force and Interactions

Students will be able to:

- Describe a force as a push or a pull.
- Explain unbalanced and balanced forces using a force diagram.
- Explain how forces of gravity and air resistance work on a falling object.
- Provide evidence that a pattern can be used to predict future motion.
- Determine cause and effect relationships of electric or magnetic interactions between two objects not in contact with each other.
- Define a simple design problem that can be solved by applying scientific ideas about magnets.

Key Vocabulary

Force – a push or pull of an object

Push – a force that can make an object start to move, change direction, speed up, slow down or stop

Pull - a force that can make an object start to move, change direction, speed up, slow down or stop

Balanced Forces – in a state where equal and opposite forces cancel out each other and the object is at rest

Unbalanced Forces – a force that causes a change in motion of an object, the forces are not equal and opposite

Ways FAMILIES Can Help

- ★ Be attentive to force and motion all around you.
- ★ Play a game of tug of war and discuss how the forces are balanced or unbalanced.
- ★ Look for examples of pushes and pulls around your house.
- ★ Use a magnet and see if you can make an object move.