Meet the Teacher Night 3rd Grade

Introduction:

I am very excited to be your child’s 3rd grade teacher this year! This is my 11thth year teaching at St. Peter’s! I am originally from Pennsylvania, where I received my Bachelors in Elementary Education. I also received my Masters in Childhood Literacy B-6 from SUNY New Paltz. I moved to Poughkeepsie in 2008 with my husband Eric. We have two sons, Owen who is 6, and Wyatt is 4. They keep us busy outside of school with swimming, basketball, and BMX. In my free time, I love to be outdoors with our puppy, Gigi, and I love to read!

Specials:

Monday: Music 8:45-9:15, Art 9:15-9:45

Tuesday: Art 9:45-10:15

Wednesday: Gym 1-1:30

Thursday: Library 9:15-9:45

Morning Routine:
The students will come in and unpack. They will sign in for lunch, and will begin their morning work. Morning work will be a daily journal entry, and math problems from the board. It will be a review of topics from class, while also reinforcing topics from the year.

ELA: (Spelling, Reading, Grammar, Writing)

This year we have a reading series called Ready Gen. The students will have a Readers and Writers Journal. The Readers and Writer’s journal is where they will be working on writing detailed paragraphs, as well as showing text evidence. The Spelling lists are all words pulled from the phonic skills in Ready Gen.

Each day, we will be having a 90 minute reading block. Part of the reading block will be a whole group lesson, then we will be breaking into guided reading groups, and center based learning. The centers will be focused on reading comprehension, Grammar, and Writing. They will also be using the Chromebooks for digital Readworks, Freckle, MAPS SKILLS, and reinforcement activities.

Also in the reading block, the students will be working on Grammar and Phonics. We have a Grammar and Phonics book that we will be working daily on.

For writing, we will spend a lot of time creating a masterpiece. The first unit is a personal narrative. We will spend time on each part of the writing process, constantly editing, and adding to our narrative.

Religion: The students will be learning about Jesus, and the Seven Sacraments this year. We will be completing many projects, as well as attending First Friday Mass each month. The third graders have a very exciting month in January, where they are responsible for the Catholic Schools Week mass. In addition, we will be incorporating the monthly value. September’s value is faith.

Math: Eureka is our main resource for Math. We will be doing the lessons together in class. We will be working on the lesson together, then the students will be meeting in small groups to review the topic. The students will also be completing weekly centers based on the topic we are learning, as well as reviewing skills they previously learned. Their math homework will be a reinforcement, and practice of the skills we learned in class.

Science: We don’t have a textbook for Science. We will be using packets from the Next Generation of Science Standards. We will be focusing on The Nature of Science, Energy, Ecosystems, Weather Matter, and Plants.

Social Studies: This year’s focus will be on Communities around the World. We are using the curriculum from Putnam/ Northern Westchester BOCES. There is not a formal textbook, instead the students will be receiving worksheets, and packets of information. It is a great program, which focuses on reading informational text, and learning about the world around us. We will be learning about Brazil, China, Kenya, and the United States. We will also be learning about Geography.

Behavior: Behavior will be monitored each day. Students have the opportunity for many positive rewards! They can earn tickets for being on task, completing their homework, helping a friend in need, and many more! Tickets will be randomly drawn for extra time on flexible seating (yoga balls, bean bag chairs, pillows, low table, and wobbly stools.) Other prizes include prize box, and picking a new seat for a subject.

Homework: Homework shouldn’t take any longer than 30 minutes a night. If it does go past 30 minutes, please sign your name so I know that the students tried their best. If the students complete all of their homework, they get to play Homeworkopoly on Fridays. Any missing homework will have one extra day to be completed for half credit, and two days for ¼ credit.

Teacher Website: I will be posting everything you need to know about 3rd grade on Weebly. The weekly newsletter, weeks assignments and events are all on Weebly. You can also find extra copies of projects, study guides, and websites to use.

<http://mrsmckeever3rd.weebly.com/>

Technology: We are a center based classroom. We will be working with Chrome books in the classroom, as well as working in the computer lab. We will be able to complete Readworks online, as well as reinforce math facts, and engage in STEM learning in Science. Each lesson will be differentiated to meet the individual needs of each student. Please send in headphones to be used with the Chromebooks. Thank you!!

Change in dismissal: Please send in a note if there is any change in dismissal. Thank you!!

Snack: We will have snack daily around 10am. Please send in a healthy snack for your child, as well as a reusable water bottle. Only water is permitted during snack time.

Parental Portal: Parents can login into Cornerstone at anytime. You can see your child’s grades, and progress at anytime. If you have any questions about your login information, please see the office.

Contact Me: The best way to contact me is by email. I check it every morning and every afternoon. You can email me directly from weebly. There is a link on my teacher page that says email me at 3rdgradestpeters@gmail.com. Please contact me at anytime!

After School Activities: We are excited to be offering many after school activities this year! Here are a few of the activities that are offered.

Band

Intramurals

Mad Science

I am looking forward to a wonderful year!!

Mrs. McKeever