

Amanda Kulik Room 11
Kari Robbins Room 12
3rd Grade
Blanche Sims Elementary



Dragons Unite

Welcome to Curriculum Night
Wednesday, September 11th 2019

Weebly Webpages

Mrs. Kulik's website: mrskulik3rdgrade.weebly.com

Mrs. Robbins' website: mrskarirobbins.weebly.com

Class Tag

Sign up for Class Tag for classroom updates and conference sign ups. Please note that your child has an individualized code to access Class Tag. See me for your child's Class Tag code if you have misplaced it.

Information

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We would like to welcome both you and your child into 3rd grade at Blanche Sims. The Purpose of this packet is to provide you with information and hopefully answer questions that you may have about the school year.

We welcome all questions and concerns and have an open door policy in both of our rooms. We are available before and after school upon appointment.

- *Amanda.Kulik@lok12.org* voice mail number is 2311
- *Kari.Robbins@lok12.org* voice mail number is 2312

Student hours:

The full school day is from 8:50a.m. To 3:50 p.m. A half day for students is from 8:50am -12:05pm. If your child arrives after 8:50, they will need to request a tardy slip from the main office and sign up for lunch. If you need to pick up your child early, please check in at the office and sign your child out. Classroom teachers must wait to be notified by the office before releasing your child even if you are in the classroom for a party or with us on a field trip. If your child is going to be absent or picked up early, please email the teacher and the office to inform us.

Conferences:

Although the school has set specific dates for conferences, we are willing to meet at any scheduled time you have questions and/or concerns. We are available most mornings from 8:10-8:30 (except for Tuesdays and Wednesdays) and usually after school until 4:10. We can also do phone conferences.

If you do wish to have a meeting with one of us, **please try to schedule them in advance and let us know what you would like to discuss.** It allows us to adequately prepare for our meeting.

In addition, if we have a conference scheduled and you are not able to meet, please let us know.

School Conference Dates: Fall Conferences Tuesday, Nov 12th, and Thursday Nov. 14th 2019. Spring Conferences are Thursday, March 19th and Tuesday and March 24th 2019.

***Please see Class Tag to schedule a conference time. ***

Dragon Folder:

Students have given a Dragon Folder. They also have a planner. Students are expected to fill out their assignment sheet every day and get it signed by an adult at home. If students get their planner signed each day, they will get paid 5 dollars from the classroom economy money per day. Students should be practicing some form of math fact practice at home.

Students that forget to fill out their assignment sheet, get it signed, or forget their folder will not get paid their economy money. If a student repeatedly forgets to do those things, there will be a larger consequence.

Consequences could include but are not limited to....

- Partial or total loss of recess
- Partial or total loss of classroom activities (including parties, assemblies, fun activities, etc)
- Lose the privilege to move around the room

Organization:

Students will be using their composition notebooks to help them keep notes and information taught in class. They will be gluing information in them daily.

Snack:

1. The kids look forward to their daily snack. Please have them bring a nutritious snack to tide them over during the day. Some examples are; yogurt, fresh or canned fruit, cheese and crackers, granola bars or fresh veggies. Pop, candy, cookies, chips or donuts are not permitted at snack time. Students in all classrooms will be prohibited from bringing in food that contains peanuts as an ingredient.

Curriculum:

Math:

- **Math Fact Practice sheets:**
Your child is learning their multiplication facts this year they are encouraged to practice basic math facts (especially multiplication and division) throughout the year. Each student will get practice sheets throughout the first few math units to practice their facts. This will only help your child succeed in math this year. Flash cards, computer games, or writing them out are great tools to use each night at home to support these skills.
- **Monster Multiplication and Division:**
Students will be able to keep track of their multiplication and division fact fluency progress using the monster multiplication program. More information will come home later.
- **Math Common Assessments:**
All grades across the district will participate in math common assessments. In 3rd grade these assessments will come in the form of unit tests. If you have any questions or concerns after your child's scores have been sent home, then you may contact us and we can set up a time to meet.
- All the elementary schools within Lake Orion are using the Math Expressions series within their classrooms. Your child has a math workbook in class book. Students will also have a unit test that will be completed on the computer to prepare them for M-Step Testing.

Reading & Writing Workshop

- District/School Wide way to teach Reading & Writing
- Lucy Calkins
- Both follow the same format
 - Mini-lesson (10-15 minutes)
 - Independent Reading/Writing(~30-40 minutes)
 - Teacher conferences during this time
 - Share (~10 minutes)
- Independent Reading and Writing take place **every day** (each subject for at least 55 minutes)
- Students will have a 25 book **reading goal** for the year (not graded)
- **District Wide Writing Common Assessments**: Students will be asked to give several writing samples throughout the year.
- Students will be tested using Teacher's Collage and FastBridge, to determine their reading levels in Fiction. The end of the year standard is to be reading at a level P.
- **Reading Units**: Building a Reading Life, Solving the Mystery Before the Detectives, Grasping Main Ideas and Text Structures, Character Studies, Research Clubs: Elephants, Penguins, and Frogs, Oh My.
- **Writing Units**: Crafting True Stories, The Art of informational writing, changing the World: Persuasive Speeches, Petitions and Editorials, Baby literary Essay, and Writing Fairy Tales.

Classroom Library:

Students will be allowed to borrow books from our classroom libraries. However, since we have purchased the books from our own funds, we do ask that if a book is lost or damaged it is paid for. The students will complete check out forms to keep track of the books that they take home. Students are expected to return books in a timely manner.

Our classroom libraries are always in need of books. If you have 3rd grade books that you would like to donate, we would be more than happy to add them to the classroom library.

Word Study

- The district uses a program called Words their Way
- Process...
 - Students will take an inventory test in Sept./Jan./May
 - Students will be placed in groups based on that test
 - Each group will have their own specific set of words to study
 - Students will be assessed at the end of each unit.
 - Students will do a variety of activities/games to learn the **spelling and the rule/pattern** their words follow

Social Studies

- Social Studies in 3rdth grade will be about Michigan.
- We will focus on development of our state, history, government, economy, geography, people who have impacted MI.

Science

- Lake Orion has adopted a new curriculum for science from Oakland Schools. We will be completing three units selected by the district. Students will be learning about Weather (Wild and Wacky Weather), Force and motion (Let's Move), and Ecosystems (Stick Together)

Extra Help

If you feel your child is struggling in an academic area, please contact me as soon as possible. There are many options for help/re-teaching.

Homework is...

- Given if students do not complete work during class time.
- Fluency Practice Sheets (Start of the year)
- Fractions and Two Step Story problem Homework when the units occur.
- Reading 20 minutes a night
- Expected to be turned in on time

Late/Missing Work

Students who do not turn in their work will spend their recess completing unfinished assignments. Students will also not get paid from the classroom economy.

Attendance:

Teachers are required to keep track of attendance. It is important for your child to be present and punctual daily. If he/she is ill, please notify the office. If the number of days absent or tardy becomes significant, you will be receiving a call or letter.

8:30 am Breakfast Starts Being Served (starting with SACC program)

8:30 am Students can be dropped off into lines (staff supervision begins)

8:43 am Students in lines will be allowed in the building.

8:45 am Warning Bell, Busses release students

8:50 am School Starts, Students should be in the classroom

*Anytime a child arrives after, 8:30 a.m., they can enter the building for breakfast only. They must report directly to the cafeteria and stay in the cafeteria until the warning bell at 8:45 am.

Blanche Sims School Wide Behavior Program Summary

The philosophy of the behavior program is to TEACH students the expected behaviors, TEACH the students the skills needed to meet these expectations, and RETEACH the skills if a student does not meet the expectations. There is a clearly defined process that is followed when a student does not meet a behavioral expectation. There are several steps to the re-teaching process. The "top" of the process is if a student reaches a "Step 4". This means they have had several re-teachings during the day and are still having difficulty meeting the behavioral expectation. When a student reaches "step 4" they receive a lesson re-teaching the skill from a staff member and they receive this lesson for the following 3 days. A letter is also sent home informing the parents so they are aware and can help reinforce the lesson at home. Part of the school wide behavior plan is that if a child hits/strikes another person out of anger it is an automatic suspension. Repeated offenses might also result in a suspension. When the child returns to school they receive lessons re-teaching the skills needed to meet the behavior expectation. All steps will be documented in our classroom binder.

Classroom Management:

We strongly believe in positive discipline and consistently acknowledge desirable behavior. **All students have the right to learn as well as we have the right to teach.** Students not only are recognized for areas of improvements but areas that they excel in. Students will receive or lose money based on their classroom work completion, homework and behavior.

Our classroom has been working on establishing a positive classroom environment where each child feels welcome and supported. We created a classroom promise that will encourage us to be successful in school and life.

In Our Classroom

- We use manners
- We say we are sorry
- We forgive
- We make mistakes
- We respect each other
- We give praise
- We work hard
- We never give up

KULIK CLASSROOM INCENTIVES: As a class, students may earn marbles to put in the marble jar. The students will vote on their rewards for each level that they reach.

Robbins Classroom Incentives: As a class, students may earn numbers 1-100 on a hundred's chart. When we get 10 in a row, the class will get to pick a prize for the whole class to enjoy.

OLWEUS Bully Prevention Program (School Wide)

<http://www.violencepreventionworks.org>



This year our classes will discuss ways to help prevent bullying. Students will go through lessons that promote teamwork, recognize & accept diversity, stand up for each other, when & how to report bullying, etc.. **Prevention of bullying starts with all of us!**

Three Components of Bullying Behavior

1. Bullying is an aggressive, negative act or behavior
2. Bullying involves a pattern of behavior repeated over time.
3. Bullying involves an imbalance of power or strength.

****In order to be considered bullying, the action must have all 3 components****

Consequences for those showing bullying behaviors

****If a student reports a negative act, it is written down in a common place in case negative acts happen elsewhere. That way we can look for patterns and keep everyone informed.****

First Offense: No lunchroom and recess for 3 days

Phone call home

Second Offense: No lunchroom and recess for 3 days

Phone call home Meeting with parent and student. Stay after school.

Third Offense: In school suspension. *Meeting with parent and student.

Birthday Celebrations:

Feel free to send in a birthday treat with your child on their special day. Please contact me to let me know that you will be sending treats so that we can plan our day. If your child has a summer birthday, we will celebrate it during the last week of school.

Protocols for Classrooms in Lake Orion:

2. Students in all classrooms will be prohibited from bringing in food that contains peanuts as an ingredient. Ingredients are listed in the labels in descending order of predominance.
3. 'Treats' for special occasions (i.e. birthdays) must be pre-packaged and will be sent home rather than eaten in the classroom. Non-food items are also an option as an alternative.

NO BIRTHDAY TREATS ARE TO BE EATEN AT SCHOOL.

Please encourage your child alternatives to "treats". (pencils, trinkets) Treats will be eaten at parties if the ingredient list was sent to class and does not contain peanuts.

Field Trips

Cranbrook-TBA

Nursing Home- December

Farm- April/May

Lansing- June 2nd

Historical Museum and Capitol Building

Wax Museum

The students will be doing wax museum with people who have made a positive impact on Michigan. The students will dress as their Michigan people, complete a research report, and perform it in front of their classmates and parents. A list of possible people will go out later this year. If your child does not want to pick a person on this list, they must have their teacher's approval pick another person. Dates for this project will be determined at a later date in the spring.

Volunteer:

Volunteers are always welcome in the classroom. Please let us know if you are interested! The signup sheet is located on our Weebly website.

Thanks,

Mrs. Kulik

Mrs. Robbins