

The ABC's of Third Grade

With Mrs. Hillegas

A

Absence: If your child is absent from school, please call and/or send in a note to school. Educational trips must be approved at least two days in advance. To print an educational trip form visit GES webpage under forms or click here:
<https://www.boyertownasd.org/cms/lib/PA01916192/Centricity/Domain/887/ABSENT%20Elementary.pdf>

B

Birthdays: Birthday treats are welcome. If your child's birthday falls on a weekend you may gladly choose to send in treats on the Friday before or the Monday after. Sending in treats is optional.

C

Calendar: You can view our monthly school calendar on the GES page or by clicking here:
<https://www.boyertownasd.org/Page/22>.

Classroom Management: In our classroom, we use Class Dojo. Information to connect with our class will be provided.

Conferences: Parent-teacher conferences will be held in November for all students. Sign-ups for the conferences will be sent out by signupgenius.com after open house in August. Please look for this email to come to the email address you provided to the school. Closer to the conference date, I will send home a reminder. Conference dates are: November 21 4:30-7:30 and November 25 1:00-7:30.

Co-taught Classroom: Your child is in a co-taught classroom. What does that mean? There are two teachers that support the students in our classroom for the majority of the day. Mrs. Rosborough will be with us from 8:45-10:25 during our math instruction and Mrs. McGee will be with us for RELA from 12:40-2:45.

Cursive: We will continue cursive this year and master writing our names! I will be teaching letter formation, slant, and correct spacing and connections. Once a letter has been practiced at school, feel free to encourage practice at home.

D

Dismissal: Students are dismissed at 3:25. If students are going to be picked up, a written note must be turned into the school.

Dress: Please dress your child in comfortable clothing. They will be going outdoors for recess. I ask that children wear safe footwear. Clogs, sandals, or slip-on shoes can cause children to trip when running at recess. On gym days, children must wear sneakers in order to participate.

E

Early Dismissal Days: These days will take place throughout the school year. Please check the District calendar for early dismissal dates. On Early Dismissal days, students are dismissed to the buses at 12:30 PM.

Email: My email address is mhillegas@boyertownasd.org . I check email several times throughout the day. This is the best way to contact me. However, you can also contact me by phone at (610) 473-5025.

EngageNY/Eureka Math: We use the EngageNY/Eureka math curriculum. It follows the common core. Your child will be engage in a mini lesson as well as small group guided math daily. We are focusing on fact fluency and will have nightly fact fluency practice.

F

Field Trip: We will have one field trip. A date will be determined closer to springtime.

Flexible Seating: What is flexible seating? It means that when the students are working, they will have the freedom to find comfortable spaces around the room to work. Research shows that flexible seating helps students attention spans which results in higher achievement, makes students more actively engaged in the classroom, gives them an active outlet without disrupting their learning, makes them more physically fit, motivates students to want to come to school, helps those with ADHD and Autism, along with other special needs, helps develop a sense of community among the students which improves their social skills, and it helps them to become independent learners.

Folders: Your child will have a take home folder. Please check your child's folder every night for important papers from school. Please send this folder to school each day.

G

Guidance Counselor: Your child's guidance counselor is Ms. Julie Weber. Her phone number is (610)473-5090 and email is jaweber@boyertownasd.org .

H

Homework: Homework is an important part of your child's education. It allows students to practice and review their skills. Homework will be assigned M-Th. It should take no longer than 30 minutes to complete. There is 20 minutes of reading nightly. Homework will consist of reading and math – when needed.

I

Independence: It is very important for your children to develop their independence and become responsible for their school work and their belongings. Please help your child take care of their things and check in with them to make sure they are completing their assigned work, however, please avoid doing things for them.

IRLA: IRLA is an assessment that evaluates a research –based developmental learning sequence of foundational early reading skills; allows teachers to identify and target specific student learning needs and set goals for continued reading growth.

J

Journals and Notebooks: Writing takes place every day in Third Grade. One way we accomplish this is through writing in our journals/notebooks for math, reading, and writing.

K

Keep Updated: by checking your child's Take Home Folder every night for notes and information. Take the time to reinforce organizational skills at home by cleaning out the Take home folder on a weekly basis. Use the class website and Class Dojo to keep connected. You can also access class information through the district website teacher page.

L

Library: Every Friday your child will be visiting the library. This is when they can exchange books. Please help to remind your child to put his/her library books in their backpack.

Lunch: You may deposit money in your child's account by sending a completed lunch envelope to school. We will deliver it to the office for you. You can access your child's lunch account on-line at <http://www.ezschoolpay.com/> . A menu is available on-line at <https://www.boyertownasd.org/domain/181> . Our lunch time is from 11:05-11:35.

M

Medicines: The school nurse will administer all medications. Please contact the nurse if your child is to be given any medicine during school hours. If your child has asthma, you may

want to consider leaving a spare inhaler with the nurse. The nurse can be reached at (610)473-5070.

Meteorologist: Each week a student will be selected to be the meteorologist and give us the daily weather forecast. A weekly weather form will come home to be completed.

N

Newsletters: Instead of weekly or monthly paper newsletters, I update the Class Dojo story page on a daily basis. Please look for important information to be posted there.

O

Opportunities to help in the classroom and at home: If you are able to help in the classroom or can complete some tasks at home, please let me know.

P

Party invitations: Please send in invitations for parties for all students in the classroom OR all boys/girls so that no one is excluded.

Personal Belongings: Please make sure that all personal belongings coming to school are labeled with your child's name. We ask that you **do not** send toys or electronic devices with your child to school.

PSSA Testing: Testing will occur in the spring. April 20 – May 8 are Reading and Math for grades 3-5. We are working towards testing this year and learning test taking strategies. More information will come home closer to the testing dates. Nothing to stress over!

Q

Questionnaire: Please fill out the questionnaire as soon as possible and return it to school. This really helps to give me insight about your child.

R

Reading: It is so important that your child reads on a nightly basis. Research has proven the benefits of nightly reading far outweigh any other homework assigned. Please encourage reading each and every night.

Reading Units of Study: This provides a workshop structure in a unit form to support students' growth as readers. It provides tools and methods to help students move up the ladder of text complexity through clearly articulated learning progressions.

Recess: Weather permitting, students will be going outside to the playground every day.

Report Cards: Report cards are sent home every 9 weeks. Our grading at GES is

Advanced – 4

Proficient - 3

Basic - 2

Below basic - 1

S

Scholastic Book Club: Book orders will come home monthly. If you would like to place an order you may send in your order form to school or go online at

<https://clubs2.scholastic.com>. Our class order code is: GZVHH.

Snack: Your child may bring a snack to school each day. Our snack time is in the afternoon. Please make sure the snack will only take about 5 minutes to eat. The snack should be ready to eat (peeled or sliced and **does not require any utensils**). Your child should be able to open it on his/her own. Some good examples are carrot sticks, pretzels, raisins, or goldfish crackers. No drinks will be allowed as we will get drinks from the water fountain.

Specials: We have a special every day. Our Special schedule can be found on my teacher page or listed below:

Monday – Gym (wear sneakers)

Tuesday – Art

Wednesday – Coding

Thursday – Music

Friday – Library (bring library books to school)

T

Teacher page: Looking for information on our classroom? Visit Mrs. Hillegas' teacher page at: <https://www.boyertownasd.org/Domain/1249> or scan QR code on right.



Test Folder: An “assessment” folder will be coming home with your child on an as needed basis. Please review the assessments inside with your child, sign, and have your child return them to school the next day.

Transportation: **Please send a note to school when your child will be picked up or is going home a different way than normal.** If I do not have note, then your child will be sent home the regular way.

Trimesters: This year we will have trimesters instead of quarters.

U

Unique: It is important to remember that all children are unique. Something that works for one child in our classroom might not work for another.

V

Volunteers and visitors: must register in the office and pick up a badge. All volunteers MUST have current clearances on record in the office.

W

Wish List: We use a lot of things in third grade. Sometimes we run out. If you would be willing to donate an item, here are some things that we use periodically in third grade.

- Lysol cleaning wipes and/or baby wipes. We are unable to use Clorox wipes.
- Dry erase markers
- Ziploc sandwich bags/Ziploc gallon bags

X

EXciting: Third grade will be an exciting year for both you and your child. No matter what level your child is currently, he/she will make tremendous growth this year. In reading students will move from learning to read, to using reading in every aspect of learning. Reading will become integral to every subject in school. In math we will move away from simple computation to more complex skills. Your child will learn multiplication and division facts. We will strengthen our writing skills this year. We will write daily in our writer's notebook. The most exciting of all is that we learn cursive!

Y

You: Your involvement in your child's education is crucial to his/her success. Be involved by asking your child about their day. Read with your child every night. Stay positive about school and your child's achievements. Lastly, communicate with me and feel free to contact me with questions and concerns. I will support you and your child any way that I can.

Z

ZZZ's: Make sure your child gets plenty of rest. Setting and keeping a bedtime is a wonderful gift you can give to your child. It will help them to be alert and ready to learn each day.

Class List

Mrs. Hillegas

Grade 3-Room 132

Logan Bond

Dylan Buno

James Burckhardt

Ryan Eisenhart

Cristiano Fardella

Christian Medina

Andrew Meier

Chance Moore

Jeremie Rhodes

Jaxon Sweat

Ava Adzima

Olivia Berry

Adalynn Conrad

Isla Elggren

Sophia Flach

Julianna Lutz

Keira McMeekin

Isabella Rosselli

Ella Susek