



Welcome Back to School

September 7th, 2020

Dear Grade 3 Families,

Welcome to a new school year. This will be my 13th year teaching. Most of that time has been within the Foothills School Division. It is my 10th year teaching the Primary Years Programme in Grade 3.

PYP Units in Grade 3:

<i>How We Organize Ourselves</i>	- Building & Structures
<i>How We Express Ourselves</i>	- Writing, Art, and Drama
<i>Where We are in Place & Time</i>	- Countries Around the World
<i>Who We Are</i>	- Rights of a Child and Humanitarian Organizations
<i>Sharing the Planet</i>	- Animal Life Cycles, Adaptations, & Habitats
<i>How the World Works</i>	- Rocks & Minerals

Each Friday I will post information about the upcoming week on the Grade 3 page of the school website. We will also use the students' agendas to send daily messages or reminders, as well as permission forms and other pertinent paperwork (ex: Daily Math, Friday Letters).

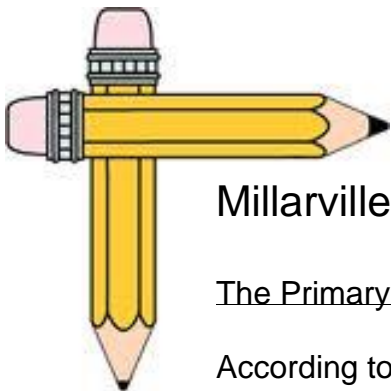
MCS requires that all parents regularly check agendas, and our school and class website pages. <https://millarville.fsd38.ab.ca>

I can be reached at the school, 403-938-7832 and though email.
My email address is olvert@fsd38.ab.ca.

I am looking forward to the year ahead!

Sincerely,

Miss Tandee Olver



Millarville Community School - Grade 3

The Primary Years Programme (PYP):

According to the International Baccalaureate website www.ibo.org, PYP is, “designed for students aged 3 to 12. It focuses on the total growth of the developing child, touching hearts as well as minds, and encompassing social, physical, emotional, and cultural needs in addition to academic development.”

PYP Approaches to Learning (ATL)

- ⇒ SOCIAL SKILLS – developing positive relationships and collaboration skills; developing social-emotional intelligence
- ⇒ RESEARCH SKILLS – information-literacy skills; media-literacy skills; ethical use of media/information
- ⇒ THINKING SKILLS – critical thinking skills; creative thinking skills; transfer/connection skills; reflection skills
- ⇒ COMMUNICATION SKILLS – exchanging information skills; literacy skills; ICT skills
- ⇒ SELF-MANAGEMENT SKILLS – organizational skills; states of mind

PYP Key Concepts:

- ⇒ FORM – What is it like?
- ⇒ FUNCTION – How does it work?
- ⇒ CAUSATION – Why is it like that?
- ⇒ CHANGE – How is it changing?
- ⇒ CONNECTION – How is it connected to other things?
- ⇒ PERSPECTIVE – What are the points of view?
- ⇒ RESPONSIBILITY – What is our responsibility?
- ⇒ REFLECTION – How do we know?

PYP Attributes

- | | | | |
|--------------|---------------|--------------|---------------------|
| ⇒ Caring | ⇒ Inquirer | ⇒ Balanced | ⇒ Knowledgeable |
| ⇒ Reflective | ⇒ Open-Minded | ⇒ Principled | ⇒ Transdisciplinary |

By combining ATL, Key Concepts, and Attributes of the Learner Profile, PYP students become self-regulated learners. Self-regulated learners are agents of their own learning. They will learn how to set learning goals, ask open ended questions, reflect on achievement, and self-assess as they learn.



Millarville Community School - Grade 3

Daily Reading

Reading an essential part of our learning. Each day we will have an opportunity for DEAR (Drop Everything and Read). The students will quietly read a chapter or non-fiction book of their choice. This reading time is also a valuable opportunity for me to check in one-on-one with individual reading progress, as well as a chance for students to meet with other reading support adults in the building. We will also work on Reading Comprehension. This will include a small passage and 4-5 questions about the information read.

Daily Writing

In addition to our UOI writing we will reflect on topics or events of the day. We will also be writing “Friday Letters”. Parents are asked to respond and return the letter Monday morning. The reflections and letters create a running document of our year together and build critical communication and reflection skills.

Spelling Practice – Each week the class will be assigned a list of spelling words and three activities. Each child will receive an ‘at home’ spelling package (yellow duo-tang). Please allow 10-15 minutes a day for practice. We will have a spelling quiz at the end of each week.

Mathematics

In addition to the yearly Math schedule we will be working through Daily Math Challenges.

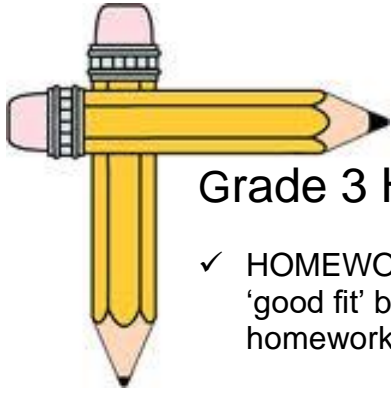
Monday – Patterns & Algebra

Tuesday – Number Sense & Operations

Wednesday – Geometry

Thursday – Measurement

Friday – Data Management



Grade 3 Housekeeping Items

- ✓ HOMEWORK – Each Grade 3 student is asked to spend 15-30 minutes reading a 'good fit' book and spelling practice. On occasion, there will be small projects or Math homework, however everything will be review and based on work done in class.
- ✓ ESSENTIAL AGREEMENTS & PERSONAL GOALS – Each year the PYP classes set 3-5 classroom agreements based on the PYP Attributes. Ex: We agree to be respectful and cooperate with our peers. In Grade 3 we will also be setting personal goals with a commitment to meet at least 2 out of 3 each day.
- ✓ WATER BOTTLES – Brain research tells us that a hydrated brain is a better working brain. Please send a water bottle to school, labeled with their name.
- ✓ PHYSICAL EDUCATION – The Grade 3s will have PE 5 days a week with Mr. Cantelon. They need to have proper indoor shoes suitable for running and jumping in gym class.
- ✓ OUTDOOR PURSUITS – We will be spending 'more than normal' amounts of class time learning outside.. We ask that the students are properly dressed (as they should be for all recesses) for outside activities.
- ✓ LIBRARY – Our library class is on Tuesday. The children are allowed to take out two books and must bring them back the next class in order to take our new books. (or re-sign them out if not finished)
- ✓ BOOK ORDERS – Each month your child will receive a *Scholastic* book order form. A percentage of the total monthly \$ spent is rewarded to the class to be used for new books in Grade 3. All orders must be placed online through my Grade 3 page. More information is located on the order forms.
- ✓ SUPPLIES – Everyday classroom supplies are provided. Requests from home, for specific supplies for UOI projects, may occur. Ex: poster board or building materials
- ✓ PARENT VOLUNTEERS – Parents are always welcome in the classroom! I do not run a set schedule but welcome you to come help whenever you are able. Numerous times throughout the year I make call-outs for specific projects or events. *****Please see current COVID19 guidelines.**

Thank-you for your support!