****

**3rd Grade January Newsletter**

Dear Families,

Happy New Year! We have many exciting things coming up. Please be sure to mark the important dates listed below on your calendar.

**Reader’s Workshop:** In literacy, students will continue with the Reader’s Workshop model in their homeroom classes. The students are receiving a reading mini-lesson and then practicing the skill learned in the lesson while reading their independent texts. We will begin a new unit of study on how characters compare to each other in texts by using the Lucy Calkins’ Reader’s Workshop Units of Study. The students will continue practicing how to inference, draw conclusions, and expand their vocabulary by determining the meaning of unknown words by using context clues. Be sure that your child is reading **at least 20 minutes each night**. This is the most important part of your child’s homework assignments. It’s also beneficial for you read to your child so that he/she can practice listening to an adult read fluently.

**Writer’s Workshop:** The students will continue to explore the functions of nouns,pronouns, verbs, adjectives, and adverbs in general and their functions in particular sentences. Students will also develop their writing skills by writing informational text pieces using detail when writing about factual information.

**Math:** We have completed our geometry unit and will now begin an extensive unit on multiplication. Remember that your child has access to his/her math textbook as well as reteaching activities that they can access through Clever. Your child will also begin learning multiplication facts. Be on the lookout for information on how this will be orchestrated from your child’s classroom teacher.

**Science:** We will complete our unit on on the Earth, planets, and the components of our solar system, and will begin a new unit on human body systems.We are all very excited about this upcoming unit!

**Social Studies**: Students will continue to study how citizens contribute politically, socially, and economically to their community. We will also study how Martin Luther King Jr. helped shape our country’s history.

Please read the following from our grade level counselor, Jenny Baer:

*I'm thrilled to announce that we're welcoming a new member to our family! Owen Daniels Baer was born on December 14th and is 9 lb 3 oz and 21". I will be taking a maternity leave through the end of the school year and look forward to working with your children again in August. In my absence, Elaine King, a retired CMS school counselor, will be working with 1st, 3rd, and 5th grade students on a part-time basis. If you have any counseling-related questions or concerns, please contact the front office and they will direct you to her.*

**Please note the following dates:**

January 5- Junior Achievement in a Day in each 3rd grade classroom

 Reading 3D Window opens. Students will be tested over the month of January

January 15 - MLK HOLIDAY

January 19 - Second Quarter Ends

January 22 - TEACHER WORKDAY

January 24 - Reading MAP test

January 25 - Math MAP test

January 26 - Character Education Assembly presented by 5th Grade (8:45am)

As always, please let us know if you have any questions or concerns. We hope you have a wonderful month!

Sincerely,

The Third Grade Team