

Grade 3

Katie Mandryk

katherine.mandryk@blackgold.ca

Welcome back! Can you believe summer is over? Summer is always one of the most enjoyable times of the year, and I hope you enjoyed your summer with family and friends. I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself, my name is Katie Mandryk, and I am so excited to welcome you and your child to Grade Three.

If at any time you have questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me during school hours. I occasionally send out emails to the entire class roster of parents, however, if I need to contact parents regarding a personal student issue, I will either call or email. Consider no news, good news!

****Attached to this introduction letter is a form for you to send me current email addresses. Please send this form back ASAP. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.****

Agenda:

- ★ Your child will be bringing home an agenda every day. Each day they will write homework assignments and any messages in them. Please read your child's message and initial it nightly. If you have any questions or comments please feel free to message me in the agenda. The agenda is to be kept in a Ziploc bag/kanga pouch at all times to protect it from spills. You can purchase kanga pouches at the office for \$10.

Lunch:

- ★ Our classroom does not have a microwave, please ensure that any items that require heating are pre-heated and sent in thermal containers. Lunch hour is from 11:50-12:15 each day. Parents must send a note if their child will be going home for lunch.

Homework:

- ★ Time is given in class to start all assignments. Anything that is not completed during the allotted class time will be sent home to finish. Please ensure that your child is completing the homework sent home. This is essential, as the curriculum is cumulative and unfinished work could make it difficult to learn the next concept.
- ★ If your child does not complete their homework at home. I will most likely keep them in during a recess to finish it. This way I can ensure that they are ready for the next concepts being taught that day.
- ★ There may be circumstances where the students are asked to complete a special assignment at home. In these cases, a note will be sent home to describe the assignment expectations.
- ★ In the event that there is no homework, students are encouraged to have a regular homework routine that includes 15-30 minutes of reading or nightly review.

Chromebooks/Laptops:

- ★ We would like to encourage families to consider allowing their child to bring a personal chromebook or laptop to school.
 - It is not mandatory for students to bring personal chromebooks or laptops to school, but provides a nice addition to students learning.
- ★ If your child would like to bring their personal chromebooks or laptops, it will be their responsibility to maintain and care for their device. They may store their device in a specific area of the classroom, or transport their device to and from school.

Scholastic Book Orders:

- ★ Each month I will send home book order forms from Scholastic Canada. The Scholastic book order program is completely voluntary. If you choose to order books, please fill out the order form and return them by the date recorded on the form. Cheques can be made out to **Scholastic Canada Ltd.**, if at all possible, please no cash.

Toys:

- ★ Please encourage your child to not bring personal toys and/or electronics to school, as these are often lost or broken. Due to an increase in enrollment at our school, students are discouraged from bringing scooters to school. If they choose to bring them as a means of transportation, they will have to be locked up outside at the bike racks.

Library:

- ★ Mrs. Wurban is our school Librarian and will be leading our class in Library each week. Our class has library time scheduled once a week. Each student will be able to check out two books from the library (one book must be a chapter book). One book will stay at school for silent reading and the other will go home for nightly reading.

Language Arts

★ Spelling

- Our class will be focussing on 5 new words a week, with regular practice of these words in our spelling, phonics and written work. At the end of the month, students will be given a traditional spelling test of the 15-20 words learned throughout the month.
- Each spelling test will include several words from previous months as review.

★ Phonics- Unit 1

- Consonants
- Hard/Soft c,g
- Begin vowels (long & short)

★ Reading

- We will be using the grade 3 level of the Collection Series that our school uses in division 1. Our first reader is entitled "Spreading My Wings." This unit will help the students to develop concepts pertaining to hobbies, interests, responsibilities, friends, families and community issues.
- We will also be listening to a monthly read-aloud each day. This first novel is "Third Grade Angels" by Jerry Spinelli.

★ Writing

- We are using a writing series called “Empowering Writers”. This series is broken up into thematic sections. Our first theme is all about Bicycles. In this unit the students will be learning about the following:
 - Recognizing genre and author’s purpose (narrative, expository, opinion)
 - Introduction to basic summarizing framework for each genre.
 - Recognize how titles relate to genre.
 - Sorting and categorizing details according to the main idea.
 - Expressing an opinion.
 - Writing simple sentences identifying subject/predicate. (October focus)

★ **Note:** In Language Arts we will be switching between reading and writing focus monthly. That being said, there will be daily reading and writing, however each month will focus more heavily on one than the other.

★ Handwriting

- We will be learning one new letter (upper and lower case) each week. These will not be done in the order they appear in the alphabet.

Mathematics

★ Basic Facts

- Each day the students will be doing mad minute sheets to improve and practice their basic facts. It would be beneficial if the students practiced their basic facts at home.
 - September to February- addition and subtraction facts to 18
 - February to June- continued addition and subtraction, as well as multiplication facts to 5)

★ Math Objectives (Patterns and Relations)

- Demonstrate an understanding of **increasing** and **decreasing** patterns by extending, describing, comparing.
- Create patterns using manipulatives, diagrams, sounds and actions (numbers to 100 000).
- Estimation/Rounding
- Place Value
- Skip counting forwards and backwards (2’s, 5’s, 10’s, 25’s, 100)

- Building numbers in a variety of ways
- Comparing/Ordering numbers
- Picture patterning

Social Studies

★ Mapping

- The students will have the opportunity to view examples of fictional and real maps (school, park, city, provincial, Canada, World) and make observations about the maps.
- Map Directions (using a Compass Rose).
- Interpret and read map symbols.
- Understand how scale is used in mapping.
- Locate their community on a map of Alberta.
- Locate their community and province in relation to other provinces/territories.
- Location of their community, country on the world map.

Science

★ Rocks and Minerals

- Compare and classify different rocks and minerals based on properties.
- Define property and describe the different properties one uses to classify rocks and minerals.
- Know how to test for various properties.
- Learn how different rocks are formed and identify the mineral structure with each type of rock.
- Recognize and describe the various components found in soil.
- Describe and demonstrate ways rocks breaks down into soil.
- Explain some common uses of rocks and minerals, and identify examples of these uses.