

**Welcome to Mrs. Richardson's
Third Grade Class**

Blackwell Elementary


Open House

2011 - 2012

Important Dates

- **COGAT Testing - October 5th-7th**
- **ITBS Testing - October 10th-17th**
- **Parent Teacher Conference - October 24th-28th**
- **CRCT Testing - April 18th-27th**

Grades

-  Each student will be assessed to determine his or her progress toward mastery of the standards in the subjects of Language Arts (Reading and Writing) Social Studies, Technology, Mathematics, Science and Health.
- The third-grade homework policy states that assignments will be accepted only one day late. Students that are absent due to illness get one day per absence to make up assignments.

Communication/Homework

- ***Agenda and Homework Folders*** -These should be taken home and returned each day. The Agenda is where we record our homework. Please initial it each day to acknowledge your awareness of your child's homework. The Homework folder has a pocket for homework (Bring Right Back) and a pocket for graded papers, school info., PTA notes etc. (Left At Home). Please look at your child's folder every day. Homework should take between 30 and 45 minutes for reinforcement and practice. Please assist, if needed and go over your child's homework with them daily. If stressful, make best effort and we will review it the next day.

Graded Assignments

- – When your child brings home graded papers each week, please take the time to go over any papers that have received a score of 2 or lower and send them back signed so that we know you are aware of his/her academic progress.

Reading Logs

- *Reading Logs* - Students will be given a weekly reading log to track the amount of time he/she has read during that week. Along with each entry is a quick summary of the pages or book read nightly. Each entry must be initialed daily by the parent/guardian for every 20 minutes that child has read. The logs are part of your child's daily homework and need to be left in the folder so that we can see that the assignment has been completed. This assignment is made to reinforce the importance of reading in your child's life and to create a fluent reader.

Absences and Tardies

- ***Absences/ Tardies*** - Cobb County Schools policy states that all absences/ tardies are cumulative. If a student is absent/tardy for 5 days, the classroom teacher will document and send a letter home. If a student is absent/tardy for 10 days, the school administrator will document and send a letter home to the parent/guardian. After 15 days, the school Social Worker will become involved. Please be sure to send a written excuse with your child when the return to school.

Classroom Management

- **Behavior**

Behavior Bucks

- \$10 to start each 2 week period
- Must have at least \$8.00 to participate in “Fun Friday” activities
- Those that have incomplete work or “Insufficient Funds” will attend Study Hall.

Reading Genres

**Shift from “learning to read”
to “reading to learn”**

- **Narrative Text**
- **Informational Text**
- **Fictional Text**
- **Poetry**

Reading Skills

- Comprehension : main idea, inference, use of context clues, drawing conclusions, sequence of events,
- Fluency : 120 wpm by end of grade 3
- Vocabulary
- Guided Reading Level: goal of Level P by end of third grade

Writing

- **6 +1 Traits of Writing**
- **Writer's Workshop**
- **Writing Journals**
- **Grammar**
- **Writing effective paragraphs**
- **Cursive handwriting**

Math

- **Place Value to Ten Thousand**
- **Addition/Subtraction Facts**
- **Multiplication Facts**
- **Division**
- **Elapsed Time**
- **Counting back change**

Math Program Components

- **Flexible Small Groups**
- **Guided Math**
- **Math Journals**
- **Problem Solving Activities**
- **Problem of the Day**

Science

- **Rocks and Minerals**
- **Fossils**
- **Soil**
- **Magnets**
- **Heat**
- **Georgia Habitats and Organisms**

Social Studies

- **Roots of Our Democracy – Ancient Greece, Ancient Olympics**
- **Our Economy**
- **Locating important rivers and mountain ranges in the US**
- **Famous American Heroes – Having an impact on our democracy**

Social Studies

Famous Americans

- **Paul Revere, Fredrick Douglass, Susan B. Anthony, Mary McLeod Bethune, Franklin D. Roosevelt, Eleanor Roosevelt, Thurgood Marshall, Lyndon B. Johnson, & Cesar Chavez**

General Information

- **One party per year – Holiday Party in December only. However, we do have “Special Treats” along the way. If you would like to help with said treats please let me know.**
- **Birthdays/Party Invitations – Cannot be passed out at school (can use PTA Directory for home addresses). Birthday treats are welcome and can be passed out in the cafeteria during lunch.**
- **Visitor Pass- Please sign in at the office per each visit. This is for your child's protection. If you are not signed in you will be asked to return to the office to follow procedure.**
- **Change in Transportation Notes - If your child has a change in their mode of daily transportation (other than what is recorded in the front office) please send a signed and dated note with them so that we can assure that the child gets home safely.**

Contact Information

- Please feel free to contact me to discuss any concerns you may have. You may call the school (678) 494-7600 and leave a voice mail, and I will return your call as soon as possible. The BEST way to catch me is email at Kelly.Richardson@cobbk12.org. Most days I am able to check it several times throughout the day.

**Thank you! I am
looking forward
to a fabulous
year!!!**