






















The ABC's of Third Grade






Mrs. Ochs's Class

Welcome to the 2019-2020 school year! This ABC guide will give you general information about third grade and our classroom. I look forward to all of the adventures that await the third-grade class this year!

<p> is for...</p>	<p>Assignment books: Each student will fill out his/her assignment book every day so you are aware of assignments for that evening.</p> <p>A.R.: Each quarter an A.R. goal will be set for your child. A.R. will account for 10% of your child's reading grade, so it is very important A.R. books go home every night and come back to school every day.</p>
<p> is for...</p>	<p>Behavior charts: Behavior charts will be filled out every day. These stay in each student's binder. It is homework for the chart to be signed at the end of each week and brought back to school on Monday.</p> <p>Behavior Parties: To encourage teamwork and recognize good choices the class makes, we will have a party every time the class fills a container with pom poms!</p> <p>Birthdays: If you'd like to send in treats for your child's birthday, we will eat them during milk break, so drinks are not necessary. Summer birthdays will be celebrated on the child's half birthday or in May. Invitations to parties may <u>not</u> be brought to school unless every child in the class is invited! This is to prevent hurt feelings and tears.</p> <p>Book Orders: Each month book orders will be sent home. If you choose to order books, please make checks payable to Scholastic Book Clubs or you can order online at http://www.scholastic.com. Our class code is GQ3FN.</p> <p>Brag Tags: Students will have the opportunity to collect brag tags this year. They reward the students for both academic and behavior achievements. The brag tags will stay at school; however, the students will get to take them home at the end of the school year.</p>
<p> is for...</p>	<p>Card System: The cards reflect the students' choices made throughout the day. Every student begins the day on a green card. If expectations and rules are not followed, then the student will be asked to turn a card. Each time a card is turned, there is a corresponding consequence. More serious infractions may result in turning more than one card at a time. The students will record the color card they ended the day with on their behavior charts.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Green</u>-Super Citizen <u>Yellow</u>-Warning, Lose 5 Minutes of Recess <u>Blue</u>-Lose all of One Recess or Free Time <u>Purple</u>-Fill Out Self-Assessment, Conference with Teacher, and More Serious Consequence--Loss of All Recesses or Loss of a Privilege <u>Red</u>-Contact Parents and Visit to Principal</p> <p>Common Core Standards: The Common Core standards are the standards from which we are teaching. To find out more about the Common Core standards, visit http://www.corestandards.org/about-the-standards</p>

 is for...	<p>Dismissal: School ends at 3:05 p.m. P.E. will be in the morning, so a lot of classroom instruction takes place in the afternoon. Please keep this in mind when making appointments for your child.</p>
 is for...	<p>Email: My email address is ochsc@pvo.k12.il.us Please feel free to contact me at any time. I try to check my email at least once a day.</p>
 is for...	<p>Folks that are helpful: Throughout the year various materials are needed for classroom activities. If you'd be willing to donate items as they're needed throughout the year, please fill out and return the Helpful Folks form attached to this letter. Any help you can give is greatly appreciated!</p>
 is for...	<p>Grading Scale: 100-90 A 89-80 B 79-70 C 69-66 D 65-Below F</p>
 is for...	<p>Homework: Third graders are becoming more independent learners and with that comes more responsibility. Homework typically tends to be a big adjustment for many third graders, as they will have homework most nights. All homework assignments should be found in the THIRD Grade Binder and written in assignment books. All homework is due at the beginning of the school day in fairness to everyone. If homework is not turned in at the beginning of the day, it is considered late.</p> <p>Homeworkopoly: Students who do not have any late homework for the week get to play Homeworkopoly on Friday!</p>
 is for...	<p>Independent learners: Third graders are transitioning from the lower elementary grades to the upper elementary grades. With this comes more responsibility, which is something that is crucial to instill in each student during this school year.</p>
 is for...	<p>Just keep reading: Reading affects every subject area. By third grade we are doing more reading to learn, rather than learning to read. I expect students to read 15-20 minutes/weeknight. I understand that family schedules can get hectic, so if reading is skipped a night, please try to make that time up throughout the week because it truly will impact your child's learning.</p>
 is for...	<p>Keep up-to-date: The school's website can be found at http://www.pvo.k12.il.us</p>
 is for...	<p>Late Homework: If homework is not turned in at the beginning of the day, it is considered late. Students will receive a late homework notice and will have to make up the homework during recess. The late homework notice must be signed and returned the next school day so that I know you are aware of the incomplete work. If a student misses three or more assignments in one week, he/she will spend Friday's lunch recess in the office catching up on work.</p>

 is for...	<p>Mustang Money: This year students will have the opportunity to earn Mustang Money. Throughout each month they earn credits for good choices they have made such as being a good example, keeping their cards on green all week, or being kind to others. They can also be given debits for poor choices such as turning their cards, being disruptive, or being unkind. At the end of each quarter, students will add their credits and subtract their debits to get "paid" and then can use their Mustang Money to shop at the class store!</p>
 is for...	<p>Newsletters: I will be sending home a newsletter each week. This will keep you informed of all the third-grade happenings, information on upcoming events, and gives you the opportunity to take an active role in your child's education!</p>
 is for...	<p>Mrs. <u>O</u>chs: This is my twentieth year teaching. I received both my bachelor's and master's degrees from Eastern Illinois University. I am from Royal and went to school in the very same building where I now teach! My husband is a teacher at Potomac Grade School. My son, Caleb, is in eighth grade, and my daughter, Allison, is in sixth grade this year.</p>
 is for...	<p>Parties and Celebrations: We will have three class parties: Halloween, Christmas, and Valentine's Day. The sign-up for party items was at Open House. If you did not get to sign up and would like to, please contact me.</p>
 is for...	<p>Quizzes and Tests: I require most quizzes and tests to be corrected and signed by a parent/guardian, which will be considered homework for that night. This helps keep communication open between us. Spelling tests and reading quizzes are given almost every week, so these do <u>not</u> need to be signed because you can expect to see them in your child's binder every week.</p>
 is for...	<p>Respect: This is our one and only classroom rule. We will be spending much time in class discussing what it means to show respect to ourselves, others, and the things around us.</p>
 is for...	<p>Spelling: Spelling words and spelling homework will be passed out on Fridays; the test and homework will be due on the next THURSDAY. At the beginning of each month, a spelling choice board will be passed out and students must complete two of the activities on the choice board each week along with a practice test. In addition to the words on the spelling test, I will give the students a couple extra words that follow the spelling pattern to assess if students can apply the spelling pattern being studied. One-third of the students' spelling grade is based on word wall words. Once a word is added to the class word wall, the students are expected to correctly spell these words at all times. The students are not tested on these words; I just look for the correct spellings in their everyday writing.</p>
 is for...	<p>THIRD Grade Binders: We will use our THIRD (Take Home Information--Return Daily) Grade Binders every day at school, and they will go home every night. They are divided into sections that will hopefully help the students stay organized, prevent things from magically disappearing, and make communication between school and home easier! Every student is responsible for bringing his/her THIRD grade binder back to school every day: this is very important!</p> <p>Testing: Third grade is the first year for students to take formal standardized testing. The students will be tested in math and reading in the spring.</p>
 is for...	<p>Unique: I believe each student is unique and special. Each week, one student will be celebrated as our Surfer of the Week. I will choose the Star Student based on the student's choices made at school, willingness to help others, responsibility shown, etc. Once your child is chosen as the Star Student, a certificate and letter will be sent home with details!</p>

 is for...	<p>Visitors: If a visitor will be joining your child for lunch, please make sure to inform the office in advance and check in at the office when arriving.</p>
 is for...	<p>When to Reach Me: The best times to contact me are before and after school or at lunch (11:30-12:10). Please feel free to contact me at any time; however, if it is during classroom instruction, you may need to leave a message, and I will call you back as soon as possible. The school phone number is 583-3300.</p>
 is for...	<p>eXperience: My goal is to make this year a positive educational experience for your child. With an emphasis on reading, writing, and math, third grade is a time for students to become more independent learners as they grow and develop their skills. Third grade is a fun and exciting year!</p>
 is for...	<p>You: You are an important part of your child's educational team. I look forward to working with all of you and your children to help them become the very best third graders they can be!</p>
 is for...	<p>Zzzzz's: Make sure that your child gets plenty of rest each night. We are very busy throughout the school day, so setting and keeping a bedtime routine is a wonderful gift you can give your child.</p>

Parent Survey

Please take a few minutes to fill out this survey. The more you can let me know about your child, the better understanding I will have as to how I can help support your child. Don't forget to fill out the front and back of the survey. Thanks so much!

Child's Name: _____

Parent/Guardian Name(s): _____

Contact Info

_____ home work cell (circle one) mom/dad/other

_____ home work cell (circle one) mom/dad/other

_____ home work cell (circle one) mom/dad/other

Preferred Way To Be Contacted: _____

Best Way to Reach You During the Day: _____

Is there any certain time during the day that is best to reach you? _____

If you can't be reached if your child is sick or there is an emergency, whom can I contact and what is the phone number?

Email: _____

Is your child allergic to anything or have any medical conditions I need to be aware of? If so, what?

Don't forget the back side!

Student Homework

If you bring this back to school tomorrow, you will receive a surprise!

Write your name in your nicest cursive. _____

What do you like to do when you are at home? _____

What was your favorite part of second grade? _____

What is your favorite subject? _____

What is your favorite book? _____

What kind of job do you want to have when you are an adult? _____

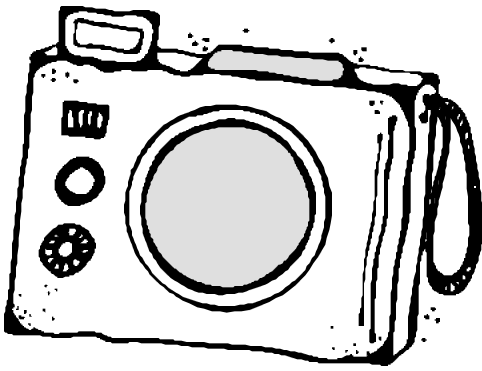
If you could meet any person in the world, who would it be? _____

If you could buy any one thing at Wal-Mart, what would it be and why? _____

Draw a picture of the best thing you did this summer! ☺ (Be sure you draw nicely and neatly!)



Write one sentence about this picture. _____



August 2019

Dear Parents,

Sometimes occasions arise when I like to take pictures of the students for educational purposes. For example, I might take pictures to show students working together on a project or to enhance a newsletter. Please indicate on the bottom of this letter if you would prefer that your child's picture not be taken or if your child's picture may be taken for classroom use only.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Ochs

_____ My child's picture may be taken for educational purposes in the classroom.

_____ I would prefer that my child's picture not be taken under any circumstances.

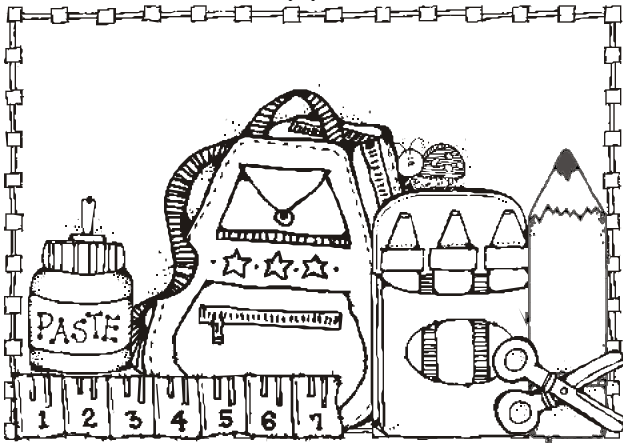
Child's name _____

Parent's signature _____

Please return the bottom portion to Mrs. Ochs. Thank you!

Helpful Folks for Mrs. Ochs

Materials are needed throughout the year for class projects, crafts, experiments, etc. When I see materials are needed for the class, I will simply write a note to one of my "helpful folks" asking for a specific item to be donated. If you would be willing to donate items as needed throughout the year and would like to be one of Mrs. Ochs's helpful folks, please fill out the bottom portion of this paper and send it to school with your child. Your support and kindness are greatly appreciated!



Mrs. Ochs ☺

____ I would like to be one of Mrs. Ochs's helpful folks
and donate class materials when needed!

Student's Name

Parent's Signature