

Third Grade Classroom Letter

Dear Parents:

Welcome to the 3rd grade at Wolfrap Elementary! Your teachers and room parents are working hard to make this a wonderful year for everyone. We have a number of different events that are planned for the third grade students this year. These events rely on the help and support of the parent volunteers. We are asking that you participate as volunteers in the classroom, at home and in sending in various items for class projects and parties. Our goal is to present a variety of ways for parents to contribute. We understand that everyone has unique schedules and gifts. If you do not see places where your family can regularly contribute to the classroom, please contact us and we will work with your child's teacher to find the best way to include you! We realize this is a long letter, but please **read it, keep it** for your records and **respond to it**. Thank you in advance for your partnership with us to make this a terrific year. Following is a list of what is being covered today and your action items. This information and these links will also be available at Blackboard 24/7 and the www.wolfrapta.org web-site under the 3rd Grade tab.

- 1. Classroom Activities and Volunteer Needs** – A list of planned events for the year follows on the next pages. Please take a minute and mark these events on your calendar. Specific information and details will be given closer to each event. This year we are using a streamlined on-line sign-up system. This will eliminate duplicate sign-ups and vacancies. You will be notified via an e-mail and/or a notice sent home when an event is ready for sign-ups. *The web-site is www.mysignup.com and you will be e-mailed links. The links will also be on-line at www.wolfrapta.org – look under the 3rd grade tab -- and on your teacher's Blackboard 24/7 site.*
- 2. Classroom Communications Information** – Please fill out this form completely and legibly so that we may communicate volunteer information, classroom needs, and events to you in a timely fashion. *Please return this form in the envelope provided.*
- 3. Class Fee --** The class fee is used to pay for items (in addition to those made by parents) that are purchased for events held throughout the year. *Please see the information on the form and return the fee by October 14th.*

Third Grade Room Parents

Mr. Batsel: Liz Curry lcurry17@hotmail.com; Susan Wood susan@woodpile.net
Ms. Beal: Liz Curry lcurry17@hotmail.com; Jamie Rosenberger rosenjam@verizon.net
Mrs. Clinage: Lynn Oettl theoettls@hotmail.com; Tina Bell tinandtim@cox.net
Ms. Savage: Elizabeth Schlier eschlier@gefioninc.com; Linda Ebersole lpebersole@aol.com

Classroom Activities and Volunteer Needs

****Please note some teachers have already received numerous volunteers for many of these activities. The Room Parents will send requests when additional volunteers are required.****

Strategies Lab, monthly during math time

Parents are needed to assist with this special (and fun!) project. Mrs. Clopton holds training sessions for these, but this is not a requirement to help. If you have questions about the Strategies Lab, please contact Mrs. Clopton at Jill.Clopton@fcps.edu. If you would like to volunteer, please look for a notice and/or e-mail from your child's room parent or check out your teacher's Blackboard 24/7 web-site for the link.

Yearbook Photos, ongoing

Parents are asked to help by taking photographs (preferably digital ones) when they are in the classroom for special events and on field trips. We would like for each classroom to parent a parent photo coordinator, so that we end up with pictures of each event and every child. Pictures will be due by the end of January. Please let your head room parent know if you are interested.

Challenge Quest

October 9, 2009 (1:10 – 3 pm, rain date is October 14)

Please see the separate flyer included for details on this event that is coming soon!

Thanksgiving Lunch

November 19, 2009 – two parents per classroom will be needed to monitor lunch

Batsel: 11:05-11:35; Beal : 11:15-11:45; Clinage: 11:00-11:30; Savage :11:10-11:45

November 20, 2009 – join your child for this special luncheon in the cafeteria, times TBD

Book Club, November 13, February 5 and May 7 (1:30PM – 3:00PM)

Parents are needed to facilitate book discussions with a group of students. Books may be purchased by parents or checked out from the public library. More information will follow. Please look for sign-ups on Blackboard 24/7 once your child has made their book selection.

Winter Party, December 18, 2009 (1:30PM – 3:00PM)

Parents are needed to help in the classroom as well as provide supplies and food.

Ahead of Time Alert: part of this activity will be sending in two new or gently used book for your child to donate to a needy classroom – books your child read in first or second grade would be perfect. Another option is to check out bargain books in the Scholastic flyers.

3rd Grade Teacher Appreciation Luncheon, Friday, January 8, 2010

Ahead of Time Alert: The theme will be: Soup's On and the luncheon will be coordinated via electronic sign-up sheets.

Green Springs Garden Park Field Trip – February 10-11, 2010

Clinage/Beal – February 10; Savage/Batsel – February 11

Chaperones will be needed.

Ancient Civilization Day, April 16, 2010

Each classroom will be responsible for decorations for a different civilization.

Ahead of Time Alert: The assigned civilizations for each classroom will be as follows:

Clinage = Greece; Beal = Rome; Batsel = Egypt; Savage = China.

Please note that the children can wear a costume from the civilization of THEIR CHOICE.

Fall is a great time of year to think about finding costumes for this event, but they can certainly be homemade, too.

Teacher Appreciation Week, May 3 – May 7, 2010

Look for information on week-long appreciation activities for our wonderful teachers that are planned by the PTA for the entire school.

Luray Caverns Field Trip, Wednesday, May 5, 2010 – all day

Ahead of Time Alert: This event is planned by the teachers and school and requires a separate field trip fee of approximately \$40. This same fee will be due of all chaperones.

SOL Testing, May – June, 2010

More details will come from your child's teacher as these dates get closer.

Butterfly Bonanza, May 27, 2010 (1:00 – 3:00 pm)

Volunteers and donations will be needed.

End of the Year Party at Glyndon Park, tentatively June 17, 2010

Volunteers and donations will be needed.

Thank you in advance for your assistance this year – it makes a world of difference to your teachers and most especially to your children.

***** please remove this form from the packet and return with your class fee in the envelope provided*****

Classroom Communications Information

Parent's Name(s)

Child's Name

Primary Contact Email Address***

Primary Telephone Number and Type (e.g., home, work, cell)

***If you do not regularly (at least twice a week) check e-mail, please check this box, as this may necessitate us calling you personally for each event/volunteer request.

3rd Grade Class Fee

Please return this form and the \$20 class activity fee made payable to "Diane Dondershine" in the envelope provided to your child's teacher via the Tuesday envelope no later than **October 14th**. At the request of some parents, we are also taking optional contributions to group gifts specifically for your child's teacher. If you would like to participate, please include that amount in your check. We realize that many parents enjoy giving homemade or specially chosen gifts as well, so this is completely optional and just made as a convenient option for families who wish to participate.

\$20 Class Fee per child, includes class t-shirt
_____ Optional Contribution to Group Teacher's Gifts

_____ Total Contribution

Thank you!

Important Note: Per PTA regulations, we are required to notify you that it is possible that there may be a small quantity of "extra" funds at the end of the year. Only a very minimal amount of funds (the amount required to keep a bank account open) are permitted to be held over to the next school year. In the case that there are residual funds, no money will be returned and any excess funds will be used at the discretion of the teachers and room parents to enhance the classroom and the school or fulfill the teacher's educational "wish lists" for supplies and books. By contributing to the class fund, you acknowledge that no portion of your contribution will be returned to you. Thank you for your understanding.