

Welcome to Third Grade

Ms. Arenas

Dear parents and guardians,

Welcome to our third-grade class at the School of Creativity and Innovation! I am Ms. Arenas and I will be your grade 3 teacher. It is going to be a year full of fun, learning, and lots of adventure, we cannot wait to see what the year has in store for us.

Third grade is an exciting year for so many reasons. Your child will learn to be more thoughtful readers and writers. We will be writing narratives, non-fiction, opinion pieces and fairytales. Your child will become better problem solvers, developing a deeper understanding of mathematical concepts. Your child will be encouraged to think critically about problems not just in math, but in our community and our world.

As third graders, your child will be taking the NYS English Language Arts and Math Exams. We will do our very best to prepare each and every student so that they are successful. Throughout the year we expect our third graders to build their independence as they learn the importance of organization, accountability, responsible work habits, respectful behavior and safe practices.

I am eager to work as a “teachers and parents’ team” to help make your child’s overall learning experience a positive and challenging one! Remember, the educational process begins at home. We are only a tool for your child. To help build on that education, we need a “helping hand” from home – that hand belongs to you!

There are so many wonderful experiences your child will have over the course of this year. It is our hope that they become independent learners who will build confidence and a lifelong love of learning.

Here is more important information for the school year:

Morning dropoff and afternoon dismissal: Please drop off and pick up your child at the assigned location on time. For late drop-off or early dismissal, please send me a message through Class Dojo. If another adult will be picking up your child, you need to message me on class dojo and make sure they have ID. If they are not on the emergency contact form, they are not allowed to pick up your child. You can click on this link to update your Emergency Contact Card here on Operoo. → <https://www.operoo.com/>
Dismissal will be at the

Blue Card & Emergency Contact: Each student should have a completed emergency contact. You can click on this link to update your Emergency Contact Card here on Operoo. → <https://www.operoo.com/>

If you are unable to pick up your child and the person picking up your child is not listed on the blue card we are unable to release your child due to safety protocols. Bring ID for verification purposes.

Change of clothes: Please send in two changes of clothing including underwear, shirts, pants, and socks labeled with your child's first and last name in a Ziploc Bag.

Take-home/Homework Folder: Your child will bring a take-home folder home every day. Inside the folder, you will find your child's weekly homework packet (to be returned the following Monday), letters that need to be returned to school, newsletters, and updates on what is happening in our school and classroom. Please empty the folder and return it to school the next day. Homework packets will be sent home on every Monday and can be

completed at your own pace. It is essential that you check your child's homework folder every night in order to maintain constant, efficient communication between school and home.

Snack/lunch: We will provide a healthy lunch every day. You can view the lunch menu on our school website. If your child prefers to bring their own lunch/snack, they're welcome to do so. Please send your child to school with a healthy snack/lunch labeled in a bag/lunch bag. Healthy snacks include fruits, vegetables, seaweed, yogurt, pretzels, and crackers. Unhealthy snacks such as candy will be sent home with a reminder note. Your child can also bring in a water bottle labeled with their name to drink throughout the day and during lunchtime.

Sneakers: Sneakers should be worn every day. We are extremely active each day, and dress shoes or flip-flops are not appropriate for many of our activities.

Toys: Please do **NOT** allow your child to bring toys from home to school. We want to avoid the risk of personal items being misplaced or broken. We have plenty of toys here at school for all the children to play with.

Birthday: We celebrate the birthdays of our students in different ways in our school. To ensure that instruction is not disrupted several times during the week for parties, all birthday celebrations will be held on one day during the week, which will be held on **Friday afternoons during period 8**. As for the distribution of small gifts, we do not recommend parents to prepare food, you can choose to have something like a notepad, pencil, erasers, etc. **Please inform me at least a week ahead.**

I am looking forward to a fantastic 2026- 2027 school year together!

Kindly,

Ms. Arenas