

2018-2019

Marking Period 3



# Principally Speaking

Dear School 3 Parents,

I hope everyone is staying warm during this very cold winter. International Day is around the bend and is coming up on March 21, 2019, which is also a 4-hour day. On International Day, students bring to school food that represents their culture to share with everyone. Students and staff also dress in clothes that reflect their family lineage. Students also dive into learning about a country. This event is filled to the brim with food, festivities and learning.

This year, School 3 is busy getting ready for another successful Tricky Tray! With this said, each grade level received a theme and students are asked to donate items that go along with their grade level theme. These items will be put together and raffled off at the Tricky Tray. Please see the below chart for your child's grade level donation theme. Thank you in advance for your assistance. Your help will directly support this momentous fundraiser. The School 3 Tricky Tray will be held on March 28, 2019. Please put this important date on your calendar!

Grades	Themes
Kindergarten	School Supplies
Grade 1	Movie & Game Night
Grade 2	First Aid Supplies
Grade 3	Arts & Crafts
Grade 4	Kitchen & Home Décor
Grade 5	Animal Lovers
Please donate only unopened & unused items	
Thank you!	

Also on the horizon is PARCC for grades 3-5. Students have been busy getting ready for the state assessment. When doing this, students are working with Chromebooks, while also familiarizing themselves with test format and content. PARCC will take place in April and a testing calendar will be shared when we get closer to testing time.

Lastly, please make sure to hang our monthly School 3 calendar on your refrigerator and to also visit the district website for updates at [www.clifton.k12.nj.us/schools/school3/index.asp](http://www.clifton.k12.nj.us/schools/school3/index.asp)

Sincerely,  
Linette Shyers  
Principal



CLIFTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS - SCHOOL THREE

# Patriot Post News

# Home and School Association



## Thanking our Families

School 3 Parents!

We are asking the School 3 Community of parents, family and friends to COME TOGETHER to make our Annual Tricky Tray a SUCCESS!

This is the largest fundraiser and we need to raise enough this year for the students TECHNOLOGY needs, FIELD TRIPS, ASSEMBLIES and fun school events!!

Here is how you can help!

- SPREAD THE WORD! Get a full table of friends and family to join the Tricky Tray on March 28, 2019 6:30PM at the Brownstone in Paterson. Delicious food and so many GREAT PRIZES to win! Share on Facebook!

-Donate to the event! Send in a family donation basket and you will be recognized at the event in our prize brochure! This can be any value basket! Send in with your child or call the HSA for pick up at

973-220-1676

- Send in themed classroom donation requests. These can be sent in with your child.

We hope you participate!

Thank you

Sincerely,

Mrs. Aviles & Mrs. Canova

HSA Co-Presidents

*2018/ 2019*

*H.S.A. Board*

*Co-Presidents:*

*Sandybelle Aviles & Rose Canova*

*Membership:*

*Yeimy Urriola*

*Treasurer:*

*Janett Nando*

*Recording Secretary:*

*Sandra Gomez*

*Corresponding Secretary:*

*Jennifer Castaldo*

*Teacher Liaison:*

*Mr. Idec*

*Email:*

*hsaschool3@aol.com*

### **Membership:**

**Parents please take the time to  
become a member of the**

**H.S.A**

**It is only \$7 per family.**

### **Upcoming Events & Fundraiser:**

- **Book Fair**
- **Special Persons Day**
- **International Day**
- **Tricky Tray**

# Kindergarten

Dear Parents,

We can't believe that half of our school year is finished. Many students can already recognize all of the letters and their sounds. Please keep reading every night with your child and practice the 40 sight words. Many students have been utilizing RazKids.com at home and at school. We look forward to seeing their growth in the upcoming months.

In math, students have learned how to add. We used manipulatives, pictures, and even our fingers to help us figure out how to join two groups. Next, we will be learning how to subtract. Please keep practicing counting larger numbers because soon we will have to write our numbers to 100!

Our next writing piece will be a fictional story where we will develop a character, setting, problem, and solution. Students really need to use their imaginations to write an exciting story. They should be using capital letters, periods, and spaces between words in their sentences.

Our world is filled with natural resources. In science, we will explore the world's natural resources and how we need to conserve them. We will also talk about how the resources are used in our daily lives.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Stierlen & Mrs. Wallace

Kindergarten Teachers



# 1st Grade

Dear Parents,

We hope you are having a wonderful start to 2019! Our First Graders have been busy workers! They have been learning how to solve addition and subtraction equations and word problems so many different ways. They even learned how to add three numbers together! Next, we are going to be learning how to read data, tally charts, and picture graphs!

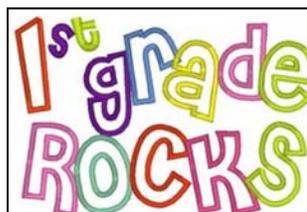
The students have also been working hard on their animal reports in Writing. In these "All About" books, they wrote about their animal's habitat, diet, appearance, and some other fun facts too. Science has been so fun, exploring and identifying objects we see in the sky. Did you know you can sometimes see the Moon during the day? The 1st Graders now know that! Try and take some time at night to look at the stars, and the different phases of the moon too.

As we move into our 3rd Marking Period please remember how important it is to read at home every night, and log into Raz Kids and Prodigy Math as often as possible! Thank you for all your efforts as we continue to work together as a team this school year!

Sincerely,

Ms. Iapicca & Ms. Howansky

1st Grade Teachers



## 2nd Grade

Welcome to   
 Second Grade!

Dear Parents,

Students have been working hard on their reading and comprehension skills! We have been achieving our monthly Accelerated Reader goals of 5 - 100% book tests. Miss Spanos, Mrs. Roca, and Ms. Shyers are so proud of us and the prizes we have received for excellent reading!

In math, we have been learning new ways to subtract big numbers! Students are loving that they can utilize Prodigy.com to support math skills and even battle classmates in a math match! Wow!

Second graders are becoming more and more independent as the year goes on. In social studies, students are so excited to talk about their community and how people and places have changed over time. They also enjoy looking at old photographs from our ancestors. In science, we will be discussing weather patterns and precipitation. The children enjoy classifying the four seasons and love to acknowledge the change themselves as the year progresses.

As the year goes on, remember to always reinforce kindness and respect. Our second graders are working so hard at this and it is so important that we always feel like a family!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Roca & Ms. Spanos

2nd Grade Teachers

## 3rd Grade

Dear Parents,

Third Grade continues to work hard as the weather turns frigid. In Reading, we are about to embark on our next five stories with the theme "Facing a Challenge helps us to grow". In Foundations, we continue to work on syllables. The newest trick is listening for when a vowel sound gets the "schwa" because it is pronounced like a "u."

In Math, we are using our multiplication skills to calculate the area of shapes. We are also learning how to use data in graphs to find answers to problems. Please continue to utilize Study Island at home to practice math concepts and skills.

In Science, we have been learning about simple and compound machines. Did you know that a spoon is a lever and your hand is the fulcrum? In Social Studies, we are learning the different areas of the world and our country. Using maps is a very important skill in this process.

We continue to work on the RACES strategy. Students must do the following when answering questions on tests: Restate the questions, Answer all parts, Cite evidence, Explain the answer, and Sum up. Don't forget to read for Accelerated Reader quizzes in school so we can meet our monthly AR goals! Stay warm, stay safe.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Fargo & Mrs. Bilto

3rd Grade Teachers



# 4th Grade

Dear Parents,

Second marking period has flown by for the busy fourth graders of School 3! After publishing their opinion essays, the fourth graders are now working on finishing a Research Simulation Task and using text evidence to support their ideas! Students are closely examining various articles on the topic of tornadoes, and writing an essay with a focus on citing text evidence to support their ideas. In reading, students are continuing to work through our anthology and reading the novel "Frindle." We continue to work on improving our reading and writing skills by answering open-ended questions using RACE skills, which are so important for NJSLA (formerly known as PARCC) preparation!

In Math, classes have been working hard to master multiplication processes as well as long division, and are looking ahead to our unit on fractions! We have noticed that many 4th graders do not have their multiplication facts mastered. We ask for your assistance at home to make sure students can quickly recall their multiplication facts with numbers 0-12. Without these skills, our upcoming unit on fractions may be difficult for students to grasp.

In Science, we are taking a journey to outer space to deepen our understanding of our solar system, the sun, and the moon! We look forward to tasting the world on International Day, as we embrace diversity and continue to learn about the different regions of the United States, as well as global connections around the world.

Finally the 4th grade will continue preparing for the upcoming NJSLA (formerly known as PARCC) test later this year. Let's hope the groundhog forecasts an early spring!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Harris & Mrs. Gorecki

4th Grade Teachers



# 5th Grade

Dear Parents,

It has been a very busy marking period in fifth grade. Our students have been working extremely hard in all subject areas and have just finished taking their mid-year benchmarks. In Reading, our students have been enjoying our novel study by Sharon M. Draper's, Out of My Mind. Students have been on the edge of their seats wondering what will happen next as our main character, Melody, who is diagnosed with cerebral palsy, finally has the chance to be in a general education classroom in fifth grade. As we begin to wrap up our novel study our students have surely learned a valuable lesson; to never judge a book by its cover.

Our students did a fantastic job last marking period writing their personal narratives and opinion essays. Now we are hard at work on our research simulation tasks. Students have read various articles about service dogs and are writing a 5 paragraph essay about the important role the dogs play in people's everyday lives. They are trained to give emotional and physical support to those who need it.

In math, our fifth graders have just dove into Topic 8 in their Envision series. They will be focusing on multiplying fractions and whole numbers. Maybe they can teach us a thing or two! In Social Studies, we are beginning chapter 4 and anticipate learning about building the first colonies in North America. Did you know that the Native Americans were actually already living in the Americas when several other countries attempted to set up colonies?

Lastly, in science unit 6, our students are learning how living things interact with one another in ecosystems. Be sure to ask them what you can do at home as a family to help the environment.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Kuebler & Mrs. Roman

5th Grade Teachers



# Basic Skills Instruction



Dear Parents,

I can't believe it is the beginning of the third marking period! We have made it half way through the school year. Our kindergarten students are progressing nicely using the Orton Gillingham approach. I am very proud of the progress they have made. We have been blending sounds on our "blending board" to make words, writing letters in the sand, and learning vowel sounds using our "vowel tents".

First grade "Foundations" students have also shown much progress in our small group. We have been writing sentences, as well as reading stories, and tapping out sounds to read and write words. We have learned about "trick words", words that cannot be tapped out and still have so much more to learn.

Our second grade students continue to read in small groups for Guided Reading. Many of the children continue to improve and bring up their reading levels.. I use these levels to form my reading groups. Reading in a small group helps us focus on word attack skills and comprehension strategies. It seems to be working!

Our 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> grade students continue to work on writing skills, reading comprehension, and new math concepts. I continue to visit those students in need of extra support and I see improvement.

Here's to a wonderful second half of the school year!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Markovich

BSI Teacher

# Resource Room

Dear Parents,

Students in the Resource Room have been engaged in the writing process drafting, revising/editing, and publishing their realistic fiction stories, text-sets, and informational pieces. Drawing conclusions, making inferences, formulating higher level questions, determining cause/effect, and making comparisons/contrasts have been some of the reading comprehension skills being applied to both fiction and non-fiction texts.

Students in kindergarten have been counting and grouping objects. First and second grade math students have been learning addition and subtraction strategies. The third and fourth grade children have been developing multiplication, measurement of area, and division skills. Fifth grade math students have been learning the process of long division with emphasis on greater whole numbers and decimals.

All students continue learning and applying strategies to solve word problems. We are proud to report Resource Room students continue to participate in our School Three Accelerated Reading monthly challenge with great success.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Prunk & Mr. Idec

Resource Room Teachers



# Counseling



Dear Parents,

Do you notice that your child gets nervous when a test is coming up?

Does this cause problems/tension at home?

Here are some tips for you to help your child:

- Ask your child what is making them feel nervous. Do they not understand the material? Are they afraid to disappoint you? Sometimes just verbalizing what is bothering them and making them feel anxious can help ease their fears.
- Break up study sessions into smaller chunks of time. Studying a little every day is better than jamming in a whole week of studying the night before (and they will, most likely, retain the information better also.)
- Make a quiet spot in your home designated just for studying and doing homework.
- Help them feel their best on the day of the test. Encourage them to get a good night's sleep and have them eat a good breakfast. Most importantly, let them know you love them no matter what the outcome is.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Miskowsky

School Counselor

# Safety Patrol

Dear Parents,

The year is quickly progressing and our trip to Washington D.C. will be here before we know it! As a reminder, the field trip is Thursday, May 30, 2019 - Saturday June 1, 2019. Deadlines for paperwork and payments will approach quickly. It is very important that we receive all permission slips by February 15th. Medical forms and full payment are due by March 15th.

So far, we have been very successful with our fundraising efforts! We will be hosting more fundraisers as the year progresses. Coming up, we will be selling Valentine's Day Grams, Spring Smencils, and more! Please make sure to ask friends and family to participate.

Remember it is important for all patrols to wear their belt each and every day to school. Patrols also should remember to be on time each day. Post begins promptly at 8:10am. Lastly, don't forget that dressing appropriately is the key to staying warm and dry in the winter months. Please make sure that patrols are dressing accordingly to weather.

Sincerely,

Ms. Iapicca & Ms. Howansky

Safety Patrol Advisors



# Music

Dear Parents,

Our young musicians have settled into winter and are singing and dancing to familiar songs, as well as some brand new ones. Our youngest musicians are exploring folk dancing this winter including songs like “Bow Wow Wow,” “Sasha,” and “The Noble Duke of York.” Students in the upper grades are playing recorders this spring. Recorders are kept at school, but you can always purchase one at a Dollar Tree or online if your child would like to practice at home. Third graders can play the notes B-A-G. Fourth graders have added C. Fifth graders are working on low E and D.

Music can be heard all around us. I encourage you to talk with your child about your favorite types of music. Perhaps they will find a new favorite!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Meyer

Music Teacher



# World Language

Dear Parents,

Students at School 3 continue to enjoy their Spanish lessons and are excited about the thematic units that we are starting this month. The second graders are starting the thematic unit “My birthday.” As part of this unit, students will be working on weather, seasons and calendar skills. We are learning the days of the week, months of the year and the format for the date in Spanish. Students love this unit, because they get to talk about their birthdays, create a birthday invitation for a friend and invite their friend to a pretend birthday party.

In Third grade we are starting to learn about food through the use of the thematic unit based on the book “The Very Hungry Caterpillar” by Eric Carle. Students are learning about foods from each of the food groups and the cycle of a butterfly. At the end of the unit, students will write their own version of the story and will be able to describe a food and its color.

The fourth graders just finished the unit “All About Me” They wrote a chapter book in Spanish! I am very proud of them. Their work will be displayed on a bulletin board for the school to see. Next, we will be starting our unit “Going to the Market”

In fifth grade, students just finished creating a Google Slide about their special person. Please ask your child to show it to you. They are available online. Students know their user name and password to access Google Apps from home. Next, we will be starting our unit “Going to the Restaurant.”

Señora Jiménez

World Language Teacher



# Physical Education

Dear Parents,

The first half of the school year has been successful. The students have been active and improving their fitness in activities like soccer and basketball.

School Three will be participating in the American Heart Association's Jump Rope For Heart Event the week of March 4th during their Physical Education classes. This event is an excellent way for the students to learn about the heart and why it is important to keep a healthy heart. It also teaches them that exercise can be fun and shows them that helping others in the community is important. We hope the event will be successful with your help in raising money to donate to the American Heart Association.

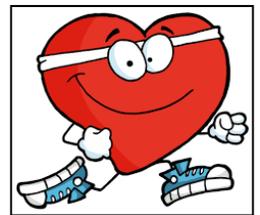
Please, if your child has not mastered tying his/her shoelaces, practice every day with them so they can learn this important life skill. Also, a reminder that jewelry is not permitted during Physical Education classes. Students are encouraged to leave their jewelry at home on Physical Education days.

Let's have a GREAT second half of the school year!

Sincerely,

Mr. Tomaskovic

P.E. Teacher



# Art

Dear Parents,

Heading into the second month of the new year, third, fourth and fifth grade aim to finish up their current projects, gearing up for sculpting. Be prepared to Nailed It, just like the fun and entertaining show on Netflix. Students will embark on 'baking' cookies and cupcakes with model magic, taking on the challenge of making each faux culinary creation look epic through design and color.

Second grade continues to build houses on their fun and funky abstract backgrounds before swimming with the fish, ones with large eyes. First grade will also take the plunge down below, traveling to the sea, deep into the ocean where all sorts of creatures live. While kindergarten jumps into abstract art using line, learning about how different lines create and effect the art work we make.

It's bound to be a wonderfully good time in art as everyone continues to learn how to appreciate and interpret the world around us through the Elements and Principles of Art.

Artfully Yours,

Mrs. Carberry-Landis

Art Teacher



# School Nurse



Dear Parents,

Ear wax, friend or foe ?Ear wax also known as cerumen may appear to be an unpleasant substance but in effect serves several important functions. It lubricates the skin of the external ear canal, preventing flaking and itching. It is an antibacterial staying off certain conditions such as swimmers' ear. Ears virtually clean themselves through the effect of tiny hair like structures( cilia) which move the earwax along and out of the ear canal.

QTips when inserted in a child's ear can do more harm than good by pushing earwax farther into the ear canal where there are no cilia. This impacted wax can lead to hearing difficulty, infection and in extreme cases, hearing loss when the eardrum is accidentally punctured.

Tips for parents:

Wash the external ear gently with soap and water..

Contact your pediatrician if earwax is excessive and plugging your child's ear..

Never allow your child to play with cotton swabs or place anything in their ears.

Itchy ears are often caused by overzealous cleaning. A few drops of mineral oil can soothe them while you wait for the ears' natural lubricant to return.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Cheringal

School Nurse

## NOTES FROM THE OFFICE

Please remember to do the following:

- Always report the absence of your child to the office
- A signed note by a parent is required for a student to be released from school before 3:20
- If your child will not be attending the Boys & Girls Club, please send in a note or contact the office by 2:45

Thank you,

Mrs. Kathy

