#### **Homework**

There are four main components to third grade homework. Your child should not be spending more than half an hour per night on homework. If you find that they are, please contact me so we can work together to adjust their work load. Homework will be posted on Google Classroom. There is more information about that in another section.

- Bible Memory: I will assign Bible memory passages with one verse due per week.
  Due dates for each verse will be indicated on the passage assignment.
- Spelling: A new list is assigned at the beginning of each week and the words are tested at the end of that week.
- Reading: Students should read 90 minutes per week. Starting in October students will need to do a book report or project about one book at the end of each month.
- Math: Sometimes math homework will be to practice facts, and other times I will ask them to do a written assignment or an assignment on IXL or XtraMath.

Even though there are specific assignments on Google Classroom, I leave it up to you to decide how long your child should practice spelling and Bible memory each evening based on how well they are doing and how much practice they still need.

### **Field Trips**

We typically go on the following three field trips in third grade:

- Lancaster City Mural Walk and Teen Haven: The connects to our communities unit in Social Studies
- 2. Lancaster Science Factory
- 3. Philadelphia Constitution Center, Independence Hall, and Liberty Bell

All three of these trips are combined with third grade UM. This year the Mural Walk/ Teen Haven trip will likely be done virtually. At this point I am waiting until the end of the first marking period before I begin planning the other trips. I will be in touch as soon as there is more information.



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# Welcome to Third Grade!

LCCS Parent's Night 2020



## What is Flexible Seating and why are we using it?

The journey into flexible seating began for me when I decided that I wanted students to engage in more collaborative learning this year. There are times when direct instruction or class discussion needs to happen, but students learn much more effectively through exploration, discovery, and small group instruction. Having each student at their own isolated desk doesn't exactly foster that type of learning, so I decided to design our environment in a way that does.

Our classroom is set-up around different learning areas. Students sit in different locations depending upon what activity or subject they are engaged in at the time. For example, math manipulative supplies are available at the picnic table so anytime a student is working on math, they are able to work in that area and have access to the tools that will help them better understand the concepts we are studying. Each student has also chosen a designated location where they prefer to work on their own. I connect with each student individually about what style of seating works best for them and where they would prefer to sit. Students always have the option to sit in that spot unless we are gathered for a class discussion.

As we began our year learning about communities and what it means to honor God within the communities where we live and work, this has been an excellent opportunity to put those ideas into practice.

My greatest hope is that we would learn what it truly means to function as a community of believers. Paul often references the variety of gifts that exist within the Body of Christ and a classroom is a prime example of that idea. Students are learning how to work together and truly be a community. They are becoming a support system for one another as they explore together, share their ideas, and encourage each other.



### **Google Classroom**

Google Classroom assignments for Bible Memory, Spelling, and Reading are posted at 8AM the first school day of each week. Math assignments are updated daily. Details regarding each assignment are included in the post so be sure to read over them carefully with your child. I will post reminders in the stream when parts of assignments are about to become due. There is also a Prayer Requests document and Goals document posted in GC for you to check throughout the week or month. Please feel free to email me anytime you have a question about an assignment.



### **Class Dojo**

This is one of my favorite tools ever! It allows you, as parents, to catch a glimpse of what's happening in your child's classroom. Behavior points are awarded or taken based on student choices. You should receive notifications through the app when points are earned. If behavior persists after points have been taken, then I will call or email you directly. If more significant behaviors arise, I will contact you so we can work together as a team to devise a plan to support your child.

The aspect of Class Dojo that I love the most, though, is the class and individual pages that allow you to see what your child is learning in class. Students have the opportunity to post to their individual page on a weekly basis. I plan to post to the class page by the end of each week. This provides you with talking points to help initiate conversation about school with your child.