

Dear 3rd Grade Families,

We made it through another week of remote learning. Students have shown perseverance, responsibility, and resilience. We are so proud of how hard they are working. Thank you for all of your hard work supporting your child and his/her teachers! We appreciate you all!

If you haven't had a chance to complete the Independent Reading Stamina Chart yet, you need to get your child's base level of stamina and create a goal with them. By Monday, you should have at least two sections of the graph completed. Remember that it doesn't matter where they start, it's where they go. Set small goals (add 5 min.) and have them work towards that goal and then raise it again. A few of your children are already showing excellent reading stamina (20-30 min.) with good comprehension (through AR comprehension tests). For those who have shown this good stamina, continue what you are doing (read every night and take AR tests on the books finished). Next week, we will be talking about what a good fit book is (books that are not too difficult or too easy) and making sure that the children are pushing themselves towards challenging books.

We are beginning writer's workshop this week. Your child will be writing personal stories from their lives. At the beginning, we will be focusing on writing stamina. We will write each day for approximately 15 minutes. Students will be choosing their own topics and during the week, we will talk about strategies for finding ideas. If your child has interest in continuing to write once class is over, by all means, that would be great. They are free to write as many stories in their journal as they want. At the end of the week, I will ask students to choose one piece of writing to send me a picture of. Here is a link to a great video for parents about writer's workshop and what you can do to support your child. Link: <http://vtuos.pub/W127-3>
Throughout our unit, there will be additional parent videos to help understand your child's writing development and how you can best help them. Students will also have videos to watch throughout the unit.

We have spent the last two weeks introducing your children to the different online platforms we will be using. We have practiced logging on. This can and was challenging. As we move into the next weeks, we will begin using these platforms more, so it would be helpful to have your child practice logging in and go ahead and explore the platform. Another way to help them be more independent with this is to bookmark the different sites so they can easily access them. Here are the websites they should practice logging in to:

MobyMax: <https://www.mobymax.com/signin>

ConnectEd: <https://connected.mcgraw-hill.com/connected/login.do>

SavvasRealize: <https://www.savvasrealize.com/index.html#/>

The weekly and daily schedules are updated on the google site. We have added times to the students daily schedules in hopes that helps them know when zoom classes are. Notice that Music will be starting this week on Thursday. Mrs. Sheehan's class will be at 12:30 and Mrs. Smith's class will be at 1:00. Students have been invited to Ms. Dirska's Music classroom and the Zoom links are there.

We hope you all have a wonderful weekend. Stay safe and healthy. Thank you for your continued support,

Susan Smith and Valerie Sheehan