



Additional Notes

We have now entered the midpoint of the first marking period. By this time students and parents should be checking Student Planners each night to make sure students have completed all of their homework. Homework is due the next day unless otherwise noted. Not all assignments are worksheets. Some assignments require using lined notebook paper with the proper heading and title.

In addition to the Student Planner, please continue checking your child's Monday folder and/or Take Home folder regularly so you can review completed or checked assignments with them.

As the school year progresses, so do expectations and requirements. We are encouraging students to listen to and follow directions the first time they are given so they will become more independent workers who rely on their thinking skills and effort to earn full credit on assignments.

In third grade, students are required to answer reading comprehension questions and explain their mathematical thinking with BCR's. A Brief Constructed Response includes complete sentences, supporting details and/or examples from the text. BCR's should also include words from the question to help clarify the answer, answer all parts of the question, and include correct punctuation. BCR's should not begin with "they" or "because". Please encourage your child to proofread their written work to make sure their response sounds the way they meant it to. Modeling and practicing how to write BCR's will be a concentrated focus this year. Written responses tell us how well students understand the concepts being taught and are a substantial part in determining grades. To learn more about BCR's and how to answer them, join us Thursday, October 16th, for our MSA Testing Information Night.

September Book-It reading calendars were due by the end of last week. Students who did not return their calendar by Friday will not receive a reward for September. Students should be recording their 15 minutes of reading homework on their October calendar by now, and can turn that calendar in at the end of the month for a certificate. Parents need to initial each day your child completes his/her 15 minutes of reading homework. Book-It is an optional program, but students are required to read 25 books on their own by the end of the year. The 25-book packet of activities given out at Back to School Night should be used to record these books. By this time students should have read and completed activities for three or more books.

Our Halloween celebration will be on Friday, October 31st in the afternoon. Thanks in advance to our room parents for organizing our parties. Mrs. Ennis will be sending a flyer home soon with money collection and party details. Mrs. Walsh's class received their letter on Friday.

Thank you for all your support and commitment to your child's education. We look forward to seeing you on Monday, October 13th, Columbus Day, for the Open House, and on Halloween for the parade.

