

Good Afternoon Parents,

Congratulations to those students who earned our “Summer Packet Breakfast” which was held last Friday morning. It showed great dedication that those children worked on the 3rd grade packet we gave them at the end of 2nd grade. I’ve heard from several children, how happy they are to have been introduced to our topics early, especially multiplication, so that they could get a head start learning about it.

We will begin our I-Ready Diagnostic Testing this week! Tomorrow we will be taking the reading part of the diagnostic and will be taking the math section next Wednesday, September 6th.

Here are some important reminders/information:

- Tomorrow your child will be taking their first full-length classroom **reading test**. Please keep in mind that there is a **vocabulary** section in this test to assess how well your child knows their vocabulary words (they’ve had the same vocabulary words for 2 weeks). Along with the reading test, he/she will be taking a **spelling quiz** and their **Morning Work Quizzes** (Language and Math). Lastly, during math they will have a **multiplication quiz**. Please review with your child any of these areas where they still need help/improvement. There are many fun ways to practice their time tables. The children can use flash cards, regular cards (ask them about the game “Top It”), and many computer games/sites are also geared towards this. Attached you will find a picture of another fun way to practice their time tables. They are called “Wrap Ups” and can be found on Amazon and many other websites/stores.
- Today the 3rd grade teachers received training from the nurse in charge of the Avalon Park Area, Ms. Adams R.N., about administering **epi-pens for allergic reactions**. If your child has a serious allergy condition where an epi-pen may be needed please contact me or the school nurse Ms. Moreno at Lenora.Moreno@ocps.net. We need to set up an emergency plan in case your child goes into anaphylactic shock from an allergy. An epi-pen must be provided by your child’s doctor to be kept in the school with us at all times. In addition, because of your child’s condition, you may be asked to attend all school trips in order for us to be able to be extra cautious with his/her medical condition.
- Please make sure your child has a **healthy snack** to eat at school every day. We eat snack directly following Specials at 10:15am. Items such as yogurt, cheese, crackers, pretzels, fruit, etc... are a fantastic way for them to keep their energy up until our lunch time which is at 11:35am every day.
- T-shirt order forms went home last week for our **“3rd Grade Class T-shirts.”** Thank you to all the parents who have already returned them along with a copy of the receipt from SchoolPay. If you have not yet purchased a class t-shirt, please do so as soon as possible. Remember all payments must be made online through the Schoolpay website. Once you’ve paid, you can either print out the receipt or send it to me via email along with the bright, pink order sheet which will tell me the sizes you would like to have for your child/family.
- I have noticed several children arriving to school after the 8:45am bell. If they arrive to school after the 8:45am bell it is considered a **“tardy”** and they will **not** be eligible for “Perfect Attendance” when it comes time for our Honor Roll Assembly. The children come up from the cafeteria and go into our classrooms by 8:35am. We begin our Morning Work immediately. Please try to get your child to school by that time so they are not feeling rushed or overwhelmed first thing in the morning.
- We have had our first full week of 3rd grade that included diagnostic testing, classroom assessments, science experiments etc.... We’ve been VERY busy!!!

- The children have **daily math homework** from Monday – Thursday night. Please make sure your child is completing the math homework correctly. The math homework is checked and counts towards your child’s math grade.
- **Your child’s homework packet is due every Friday morning!** He/she will be receiving their new **Homework Packet** on Friday too. To complete the Homework Packet your child must be reading at home for at least 20 minutes per night and filling in their reading response log. There is a **monthly menu** to choose from when it comes to their responses. You will find the menu in their binder, in the Homework section. They need to complete 4 days of reading responses per week from this menu (one appetizer, two main courses, and one dessert). If you know your child has a busy weekday schedule and you’d like them to start the homework packet on the weekend, please do so. That is why I always send it home on Friday so the children can get a head start on it. The homework packet will be collected every Friday morning, graded, and will count towards their reading grade.
- As for the **spelling and vocabulary practice**, they have a sheet in their binder (in the homework section) for each of the topics (spelling and vocabulary). It gives them a choice of different activities they can do to study their spelling and vocabulary words. There is also loose leaf paper in the back of the binder for them to use to do these activities. I will not be grading the spelling/vocabulary practice they do at home, but remember that they will be held accountable (with quizzes/tests) for knowing these words. Please make sure they are studying them for a few minutes every night.
- **We write in the planners each day so please remember to look at it every night and sign it.** All homework as well as other communication should be put in the binder that your child brings home daily. It is very important that your child return that binder to school each day. Please remember to send all monies (lunch, t-shirt, etc.) to the school in an envelope. On the envelope please write my name, your child’s name, and what the money is to be used for. Also, please try your best to send a check or put the exact amount of money due in the envelope. It is very difficult for me to find change for the amount due.
- If you have not done so, please update your addition application or become an **“Additions” volunteer** (www.volunteer.ocps.net). Every school year you must update the application. Please remember that you must be an “Additions” Volunteer to be able to come and help out in the classroom, go on trips with us, attend any school functions, and even come to eat lunch with your child (children). Also, please keep in mind that parents are only allowed to eat on campus with their children on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays.
- **Birthday parties** are not allowed in our school. You may, however, drop off cupcakes that we can give out during recess while we sing “Happy Birthday” to your son/daughter. **Please do not send cupcakes in with your child. There is a new procedure with paperwork to fill out for any outside foods brought in that are eaten during the school day. Because of this the cupcakes must be delivered by you, so that you can fill out the appropriate paperwork before we can share them.**

Here are some important dates/reminders:

- - Monday, September 4th – **Labor Day (No School)**
- - Thursday, September 7th – Guidance Advisory Committee (**GAC**) at 5:30, Student Advisory Committee (**SAC**) at 6:00, and **PTA** meeting at 7pm in the Media Center
- - Friday, September 8th – **Grandparent’s Day Breakfast**
- - Monday, September 11th – **Patriot’s Day Assembly** (more information to come)
- - Thursday, September 14th – **Open House** (more information to come)
- - Friday, September 22nd – **Fall Picture Day** (more info to come)

Here’s a message from Ms. Diana Martin, our PTA Treasurer: Good afternoon everyone! Please share with your parents/class our annual Grandparents Day Celebration on Friday, September 8 from 8:35-10 AM. RSVP is required (they can Email me at treasurer@timberlakespta.com), and only Grandparents are permitted to join their

grandchild(ren) at this event. I am attaching the event's flier to this Email. Thank you all! If you have any questions about the Grandparents Day Celebration, please contact Ms. Martin at the email provided. (see attachment)

Our weekly newsletter is attached. It gives you all of the important information/dates you will need in the next few weeks. Please read through it carefully as it may answer some of the questions you may have about homework, testing, etc. If you have any questions about anything at all, please do not hesitate to email/contact me.

If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact me at jennifer.reed@ocps.net. I am so grateful for the support I already see from you regarding your child's success this year. Thank you again, for sharing them with me each day!

Thank you and have a great rest of the day!!! :0)