



WELCOME TO 3RD GRADE ORIENTATION

**I'm happy you're joining
our class! This will be a
great year of learning
and discovery!**

Mrs. Brown

Lex Way Approach



- The Lex Way approach is a way of teaching that creates a safe, challenging, and joyful classroom and schoolwide climate for all students. All of students' needs—academic, social, emotional—are important. The classroom environment is responsive to all of these needs so that your child can do his or her best learning.
- Some components of this approach include morning meeting, rule creation, interactive modeling, positive teacher language, logical consequences, guided discovery, classroom organization, working with families and collaborative problem solving.
- See Student Handbook for additional information about this approach and our school-wide behavior plan.



Language and Literacy Framework

A three-block framework for instruction is used for the Language Arts block. This approach ensures that reading and writing experiences are authentic and appropriate. A mixture of whole group, small group, and individual activities ensure that your children will be receiving the right amount of support for their literacy needs.

The three blocks are:

- Reading Workshop (60-90 minutes)
- Writing Workshop (60 minutes)
- Language and Word Study (30-60 minutes)



Reading Workshop



Reading Workshop includes:

- Independent Reading
- Guided Reading
- Literature Study

iReady Diagnostic

Our school will use the i-Ready® Diagnostic that will provide our students with an innovative diagnostic assessment. I-Ready Diagnostic is an adaptive assessment in reading. An adaptive assessment is a test that automatically adjusts the difficulty of the questions according to each student's performance in order to determine his or her abilities in reading. This assessment will be administered on-line during the first month of school, in the winter and in the spring. The results of the diagnostic will allow us to use iReady instruction to meet your child right where they are in the areas of Phonemic Awareness, Phonics, High Frequency Words, Vocabulary, and Comprehension.

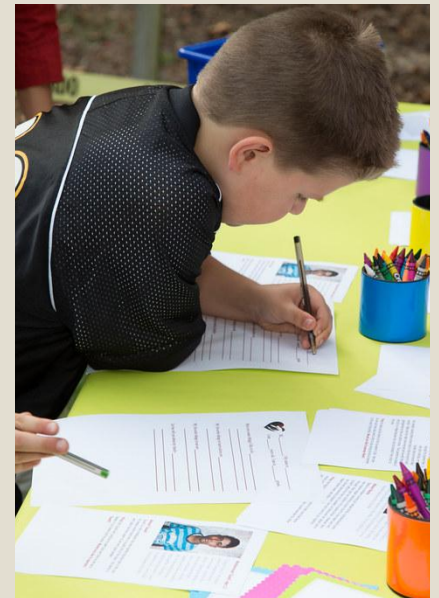
DRA2 (Developmental Reading Assessment)

This assessment is given in September and April—establishes each child's reading level and their strengths and needs as readers, so that instruction is matched to needs.



Writing Workshop

- In the writing workshop, students develop writing strategies and skills, learn about the writer's craft, and use writing as a tool for learning and communication. Writing for sustained periods, they explore different genres and formats for a range of purposes and for a variety of audiences.
- **Writing Workshop includes:**
 - Independent Writing
 - Guided Writing
 - Investigations



Language and Word Study (AKA Spelling)

We will follow a system for learning how to learn words called **Buddy Study**. This follows an 8-day cycle.

Our word study is closely connected and aligned to our writing curriculum.



The Developmental Spelling Assessment (DSA) is used to determine your child's developmental spelling stage. Using the assessment data, children will develop individual spelling lists, based upon their particular needs. Children will also have personal, high frequency words to study and learn.

Mathematics

Go Math

- Interactive and engaging approach to covering Ohio Math Standards
- Pre-tests determine where each child is working mathematically (administered on-line)
- Think Central—on-line component for classwork and homework

iReady Math Diagnostic

This year, we will also be using the iReady Math diagnostic to determine where your child is as a mathematician. The iReady Math Diagnostic is an adaptive assessment just as the Reading Diagnostic. Again, this will allow us to find out exactly what your child's mathematical strengths and needs are, so we can tailor instruction.

- Mathematical concepts in 3rd grade include:
 - Addition and subtraction within 1,000
 - Representing & interpreting data
 - Understanding multiplication, facts & strategies
 - Understanding division, facts & strategies
 - Understanding & comparing fractions
 - Measurement—time, length, liquid volume, mass, perimeter and area
 - Two-dimensional shapes



Science/Social Studies

Alternate Science and Social Studies Units during the 9 weeks.

We will be using Focus Curriculum, designed to meet Ohio's Learning Standards.

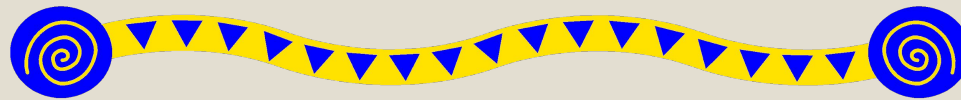
Science—Earth, Physical, Life

Social Studies—Government, Geography, History, Economics



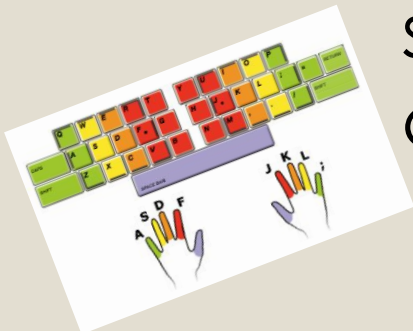
Handwriting

- Children will learn to write in cursive in 3rd grade.



Keyboarding

- Children will be learning keyboarding skills. We will have use of laptop computers daily.



Grades

Progress Book- View grades online

An overall grade will be given for each subject.

In addition, we use an M (mastery), P (proficient) and L (limited) scale as part of standards-based reporting.



Grading Scale (adopted and adapted, 2018-2019)

100-97=A+ 96-93=A 92-90=A-
89-87=B+ 86-83=B 82-80=B-
79-77=C+ 76-73=C 72-70=C-
69-67=D+ 66-60=D below 60=F



Rules for Living

- During the first few days of school, we will discuss our “Hopes & Dreams” for this school year. You can help your child prepare for these discussions ahead of time by talking about this at home these next few days prior to the start of school.
- The Hopes & Dreams will drive the creation of our classroom rules. We will do this together and will post them to hold each other accountable throughout the year.



Rewards/Consequences

- Logical consequences for infractions will be put into place. Logical consequences are respectful, relevant and realistic. Three kinds of logical consequences include: 1) You break it, you fix it; 2) Loss of privilege; 3) Take a break.
- Children will self-assess and reflect on behavior at the end of each day.
- The use of Class Dojo, a parent communication tool, will be used to communicate with you frequently.

This year, we're using ClassDojo to build our classroom community



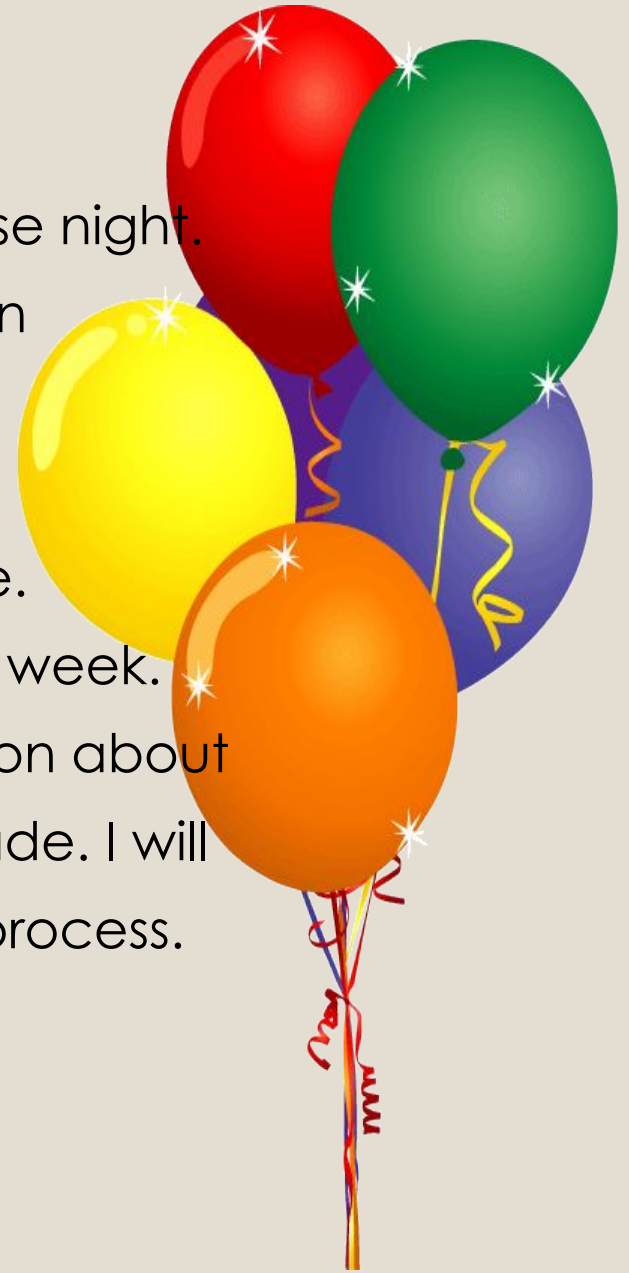
We'll build a **positive culture** where students are engaged, encouraged, and love learning!

All parents are part of our classroom community, and can communicate easily with the teacher.

Sign up information will be available at Open House and in the purple take home folder.

Student of the Week

Sign up sheet will be available on Open House night. Indicate the top 3 weeks you are interested in (#1 being your first choice, #2 your second choice, #3 your third choice), and I will do my best to honor your 1st choice. Typically, children sign up near their birthday week. An information sheet will give more information about what student of the week looks like in 3rd grade. I will be “Student of the Week” first to model the process.



Birthdays

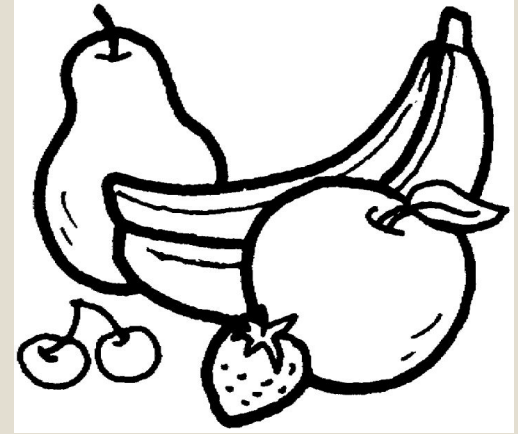
Birthdays are always special occasions. If your child wishes to share a treat for their birthday, please send in napkins, plates, etc. if needed. Most birthday treats will be served at the end of the day.

Please give advance notice by sending a note, calling, texting (ClassDojo), or emailing. If your child will be having a treat as part of their Student of the Week, please let me know in advance.



Snacks

We will have opportunity to have a snack mid-morning. Please send in healthy snacks. Fruit, vegetables, other foods with low sugar content are the best for growing minds!



Water Bottles

It will be important that your child have a water bottle for hydration purposes throughout the day. It's best to have a water bottle with a sealable lid and a straw to avoid spills.

Food Allergies???

If your child has any food allergies or other

health concerns, please let me know via email or at Open House.



Weekly Newsletters: This newsletter will let you know what is happening in each subject area, important dates pertaining to our classroom, reminders, etc. Make sure to look for the newsletter every Monday.

Face Masks: Face masks are mandatory and required this year for **bus riding only**. Your child will always have the option to wear a mask in the classroom as we return to school this year.

AC: We have air conditioning at Western! It may be helpful to have a light jacket in the classroom if your child gets cold easily.

Supplies: You can bring supplies for our Open House night on Thursday, August 12 from 5-6 p.m. (or send in with your child on the first couple of days). Please label all personal supplies. We will place these supplies in our school boxes. Tissue boxes, paper towels, hand sanitizer/Clorox wipes & baggies will be used by all students & do not need to be labeled. Pencils will be passed out as needed & also do not need to be individually labeled.

Take-Home Folder

- Purple plastic folder goes back and forth from school to home daily.
- The children will be writing daily homework assignments on a Homework Assignment Sheet. This sheet will be placed in the back pocket of the purple folder. Please sign nightly. You may write quick notes to me on this sheet, if desired.



You are invited to attend our Open House on Thursday, August 12 from 5-6 p.m. This will be a meet and greet time for you, your children and me!

You can drop off supplies at this time, tour the classroom, meet your teacher, say hello to your new classmates and sign up for activities for the 2021-22 school year.

Mrs. Brown's Contact Information:

Phone: 419-884-2765, X5103

Email:

brown.connie@lexington.k12.oh.us

OR

brown.connie@cloud.lexington.k12.oh.us

Text: Class DoJo-Information sheet with class code will be available at Open House and the first day of school.

