**Third Grade Thoughts**

**Winning Attitude Quotes**

“Work hard to create in your children a good self-image. It’s the most important thing you can do to ensure their success.” Pablo Picasso

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**IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES**

4/16 PTC Meeting @ 4:30 PM

4/17 Kindergarten Round Up 7 PM

4/19 Lansing Trip!! 7:45AM -3:15 PM

4/23 Board of Education Meeting 7:30 PM-Admin

4/25 Aquinas actors perform for 3rd Grade

4/27 Relay for Life Bake Sale during Lunch

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**Marvelous Math**

Okay! It is time to start practicing those multiplication facts again! Double digit multiplication is here! The students and I call it “Big Time Multiplication.” We have already started learning how to do Big Time X. You will see there are a few ways to learn this. Please have your child pick the best way for them!

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**Radical Reading**

This week we worked on inferring thoughts from just a title or a small description and guessing an unknown word. Good job on a difficult task. We also started our Beverly Cleary book clubs. Ask your child what book they are reading. We will be working on our comprehension with these.

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**Wonderful Writing**

We needed to take a bit more time with our fiction stories. We worked on them all week and will have our author celebration next week with just our students. After this unit, we will return to writing essays about realistic events.

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**Serious Spelling**

Don’t forget to return a word journey’s activity with the homework packets. You may see some harder words coming home. Please be sure to practice these for Friday’s blind sorts.

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**Super Science**

We just started our Organisms and Me Unit. Students will be learning about plants and animals. This should be easy since we just finished our Michigan Animal Projects. Students will create terrariums and aquariums in the classroom and learn how environments adapt to each other.

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**Stately Social Studies**

We finished our Michigan history from statehood through present this week. We will review and take our test next week. After that we will begin our government unit to prepare for our big Lansing trip!!

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**Good Things-Spoken Words From Our Very Own Third Graders**

While starting our new author study of Beverly Cleary, one of the books had Ramona wearing pantyhose for Easter. The boys in the group were so confused what pantyhose were so the girls explained. Here is what I overheard, “They are like really long socks, No they are like long underwear that you can see through. Sometimes robbers on TV put them over their heads.” wow! I was very entertained and I still the boys don’t know what they are!

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**Exercising the Third Grade Mind**

The option to choose when learning is quite powerful. Allowing children to take responsibility for their learning has proven to show improvements in comprehension and the will to learn. When reading or doing homework with your child, try letting them choose the way they want to learn best. The most important part is that you decide the choices and remember-keep the bar high. An example would be, “Do you want to do your homework before or after dinner?” Explaining the benefits helps too.