3rd Grade Newsletter

December 4th – December 8th

Important Dates

**December 21st**is the last day before the Winter/Christmas Track Out. It is also an Early Release day. The kids will have Leadership Clubs and leave school at 1:15.

**January 22nd** – The kids return to school. Track Out is over.

**What is happening this week in class?**

English/Language Arts – This week the students will continue to research and do a close reading of different frogs and their adaptations in the Everything You Need to Know About Frogs nonfiction text. The students will write a paragraph about frog adaptations using notes they wrote with partners. The paragraph will have a focus statement, three to four details and a closing statement. There is a End of Unit test on Tuesday.

Science – This week the kids will start a unit on force and motion. We will create a KWL chart about our unit, review some vocabulary and do some experiments with ramps and motion.

Math – This week the students will continue to work on the distributive property and associative property in multiplication. We will work on solving multi-step story problems using all four operations – addition, subtraction, multiplication and divide. Here is how the distributive property works. The student has a problem like 15 x 6. The kids split the 15 into 8 + 7 and multiply the two numbers by 6. Here is what the equation looks like now. (8x7) + (7x6) = a. Eight times seven is 56 and seven times six is 42. Then add 56 and 42 and the sum is 96. The kids will be working on estimating and solving two step problems. They will learn about rounding, front end estimation, and using friendly numbers.

Team Time – In team time this week we will work with multi-step word problems. This is a big push on the End of Grade test and a big part of the third grade curriculum. Multi-step problems can include all four operations of addition, subtraction, multiplication and division all mixed up into one problem. We will also explore and work with reading passages. Learning how to answer questions that are right there in the text. Many kids in third grade struggle with going back into the text to answer right there types of questions.

Other Announcements

* Continue to log in reading minutes for the Hurricanes Reading Challenge. The challenge ends January 12th.
* Send in Box Tops for the Box Top competition. Our box in the classroom is empty. Please help to fill up the Box Top bucket.
* Graded work is coming home on Tuesday. Please read it over and return to school.
* Interims will go home on Monday, November 4th.