

January 22,2010

Dear Parents,

The third grade students have just received their report cards for the second quarter. For the third and fourth quarter students will receive scores and letter grades, so it is imperative that all work, both classwork and homework, is turned in before the end of each quarter or they will receive a zero for the assignment.

I am happy to announce that Damien Cortez and Gerardo Munoz won our class multiplication challenge, learning all of their facts by January. Students who still need to learn these facts must continue to practice at home and be proficient by the end of the fourth quarter.

We have finished learning cursive letters, both upper and lowercase, and are now using it in our daily work. As it is a skill, you will see that your child's handwriting should become more readable the more they practice using cursive.

Parents- please continue to sign homework papers and Friday Folders. Signing the homework lets me know that you know 1)what we are working on 2)what your child needs help on 3)that they are expected to be completing homework every night. I have had parents in past years say to me, "I never knew my child had homework every night," so this way you will ask if you don't see it.

Though we have no school (teacher's meetings) on February 12<sup>th</sup>, the third grade is planning a Valentine's party for the 11<sup>th</sup>. Please send treats (or we won't have any food for the party!) or come if you'd like. It will be in the last 45 minutes of that Thursday. Students do not need to bring Valentines, but if they do, they must bring them for everyone. We are also having a box-decorating contest. Each student may use a kleenex or shoebox to decorate (leaving off their name.) Bring it to school hidden in an unmarked bag. We will vote for the most creative box by secret vote. Students do not have to enter the contest, but should bring a bag or box to collect their goodies in that day.

In the next few weeks we will be working on our Religious Circle of Grace Curriculum and Family Life. We will be working with fractions, decimals, and more division and 4-digit times 1 digit multiplication. We will be improving our summary writing and working more thoughtfully with Literature units, country studies, and Science processes. Let's hope for no more school days so we can really work on it! As always, please contact me for any reason.

P.S. Our class is in need of a heavy-duty pencil sharpener and stapler. If you have one you can let us have, we would appreciate it!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Holly Shaw and the third grade class