



St. Helens Elementary

October 2017

Amber Pine

apine@longview.k12.wa.us

Miss Pine's Classroom Newsletter

Conscious Discipline

We have become a community of learners and using the Conscious Discipline approach to help ourselves focus and calm down. We are now working on identifying our feelings and the possible feelings of others. This will help us with:

- Empathy
- Emotion Management
- Problem Solving

This month we are working on "Encouragement."

Mathematics

Your child is still working on number sense during math. We are expanding our skills to larger numbers (ten thousands) and building strategies to add, subtract, and even multiply these numbers without paper.

At Home: Attached you will find the Make 100 game that is a fun quick paced game to practice place value, addition, and strategy. With a bit of luck you can win and land on 100 after eight rounds. This game can be played as a partner game (this is how we played it in class), teams, or solo.

Reading

Did you know that third graders receive 90 plus minutes of reading instruction and practice a day? We have already read and discussed over 100 pages in our textbook. Plus have read several small group texts to expand our understanding of how to support a conclusion and a summary. Please come join us on School Pride night to learn more about the Journey's program. Your child is receiving grade level instruction plus small group instruction to boost their reading skills. Exciting opportunities for your child are happening at St Helens' Elementary!

Please attend our Literacy Night October 19th, 2017!

The theme for the night is Fairy Tales! Our grade level is focused on the fairy tale, Little Red Riding hood. We will be spending a week or so taking apart fairy tales and writing opinions based off of the characters actions and motivations. They are encouraged to dress up as a character from our story the night of! We are so excited for this night, there will be crafts and activities along with light refreshments. ☺

Reading At Home: Students need to read at least 30 minutes each night. Reading at home with family has a huge impact on children. Third graders are allowed two books from our library each week so they can choose both a fiction and a non-fiction for their personal enjoyment. Reading at home can look many different ways.

- Reading to self
- Reading to Someone, anyone. ☺

Counselor's Corner

Dear Families, as the year progresses, some students are experiencing more upset during their school day. This can be the result of different things such as increased academic rigor, an argument with a friend or maybe a challenging recess time. One important tool that students can use during moments of upset is the Safe Place.

Every classroom has a Safe Place and it is meant to be a space that students can go when they're having upset. After going to the Safe Place they have time to go through the steps of: I Calm, I Feel, I Choose and I Solve. Please join us in encouraging your student to practice taking a break and calming themselves. This will help keep their brain in the best possible state for learning. Practicing this at home will help strengthen this important skill for success at school. We hope that the habit of taking a break will lay the foundation to a positive school year.

Measurement

We are planning to use our measurement skills and tools to make predictions (educated guesses) on Oct. 31st during our annual Pumpkin Math Investigation.

Please help us out and volunteer! We need 6 to 7 volunteers for our afternoon of learning to run smoothly. Contact me by note, or email. Thank you ☺

Writing

Your kiddos have been working SO hard on their personal narratives. We are hoping to have them finished by Friday October 6th in which they will experience their first Writer's Celebration. Our next Unit is going to focus on "How-to" and "All About" books to help these writers become non-fiction and expository writer's to prepare for the smarter balanced Assessment this year! Ask them about their work. ☺

Our week at a glance

Monday

P.E. (Be safe & wear tennis shoes)

Tuesday

Music

Wednesday

P.E. (Be safe & wear tennis shoes)

Thursday

Music

Friday

Library

Enrichment Activities for home

- Keep a diary
- Start a nature log with scientific illustrations.
- Estimate food costs and total up monies at the store.
- Math War and Salute
- I-spy (good practice for asking/answering questions)
- Write a story together.
- Act out your favorite story.
- Write a song/Create a song
- Make up silly rhymes.

Upcoming Events

Picture Day

Wednesday, October 4th

Capturing all the smiling students!

Scholastic Book Fair Schoolwide

October 30th- November 4th

Literacy Night

Thursday October 19th 5:30-6:30

No School ~~~Teacher Training

Friday, October 13th

Pumpkin Math Celebration

Tuesday, October 31st

(CHAMPS Volunteers needed!)

Goody Friday in front of the school sponsored by our P.T.O.