

September 2018

Dear Third Grade Families,

Welcome back to P.S. 39 and to Class 3-202! I hope that you all had a wonderful vacation full of family, fun, and relaxation. Now that summer has come to an end, I am looking forward to the beginning of a new school year with a new class of third graders! I will be your child's classroom teacher this school year. My journey as a teacher started at P.S. 39 as a student teacher in the fourth grade, and have previously taught second and third grade. I feel very fortunate to be able to be a part of this special moment of your child's school career. I am sure that they will teach me as much as I will teach them. I am really looking forward to the school year ahead of us!

The first few weeks of school are one of the busiest times of the year. We will be focusing on building our classroom community and establishing classroom routines and expectations. This is a crucial aspect of building a strong and successful community of learners. As a member of this special learning community, my goal is to ensure that every child reaches their full potential, and achieves more than they may have ever thought possible! I will also be getting to know each student as well as determining their individual learning needs. Your child's academic, social and emotional growth is a collaborative effort between the teacher and families. One of the best ways for me to get to know your child is through their families! I would like to invite each family to send a letter about their child, including any interest, successes, challenges or any other pertinent information. This will truly help me get a better understanding of your child from the beginning of the school year.

Your child will be receiving a T.E.A.M. (Together Everyone Achieves More) folder in the beginning of the school year. This folder must be brought back and forth to school every day. Please check this folder each day, especially during the first few weeks of school for more important papers and class updates. Be on the lookout for other important class information and news from the PTA.

Although we will have curriculum night on September 17th I wanted to outline some of the important class policies and procedures so that we can have a successful start to the school year. This year P.S. 39 is having Mix It Up Lunch days every Tuesday and Wednesday, while our class will have lunch fifth period everyday, on Tuesdays and Wednesdays different classes will be joining us. Attached you will find our weekly schedule for special classes. As you will see the students have gym once a week. However, it is recommended that students wear sneakers to school every day. This will maximize their safety at recess and allow them to participate in all gym classes in the event of schedule changes. Finally, I would like to remind you that Tuesday afternoons from 2:45 - 3:30 will be dedicated to parent engagement. During this time I will be available to communicate regarding your child's progress via phone, email, and conferences. Although this specific time has been provided it is not the only time that we are available to meet or speak. I will be communicating regularly. School/family communication is important at P.S. 39!

As partners in your child's education, I look forward to working with you to ensure that your child reaches their full potential, and achieves more than they have ever thought possible!

Most Sincerely,

Ms. Li

Welcome to Class 3-202!

Daily Classroom Routines and Procedures

Here is a brief outline of some of the policies and procedures in Class 3-202

Attendance and Lateness

- Our school hours are 8:20 - 2:40 every day. It is very important that your child be in school and on time every day. If they are sick, please keep them home and call the school to let us know. It is important for you to send an absence note upon your child's return to school. *If your child is absent for 3 days or longer, he/she must bring in a doctor's note on the day they return.* We have attached an absent note sheet, which can be duplicated for your convenience. Try your best to have your child arrive to school on time because when a student arrives late they are missing valuable instructional time as well as interrupting their classmates' learning.

Arrival and Dismissal

- Our class will be lining up outside each morning in the front yard, on the corner of 6th Avenue. During inclement weather, students will be lining up indoors in Room 103. Our class will dismiss from the front of the building by the steps from the right door. If there is a change in your child's regular dismissal routine, please send us a note or an email. If your child has a playdate, a different adult picking them up, or has permission to walk home alone, we need to receive that information in writing. If your child is allowed to walk home alone, please let me know in writing. To ensure your child's safety, every child must say goodbye to us prior to leaving. A teacher will make eye contact with the adult picking the child up from school. Please remind your child to do this before leaving school every day.

Health Issues and Medication

- Please make sure to fill out the student information sheet and indicate if your child has any health issues, particularly food allergies and asthma. If your child needs to take medication during the school day, you must obtain a 504 form from the school nurse and have your doctor fill it out. The nurse will keep the medication with her and your child will visit the nurse when they need to use it. They may not keep any medications in their desk or book bag, including asthma inhalers.

Homework

- We do not give a lot of homework in 3rd grade, but the homework we do give is quite meaningful. Each Monday your child will receive a weekly homework agenda outlining the homework for the week. Sometimes we add or subtract homework from the agenda but it gives you and your child a look at the week ahead so that planning time is easier.

Reading

There is a lot to say about reading, which will be thoroughly discussed during Curriculum Night. We are asking that our students read only books from our school libraries and not bring books from home. This applies to the books that they will be practicing their lessons with and entering into their reading logs. Of course we encourage our students to read other books that interest them at home,

after they have completed their schoolwork. This will allow us to make sure that your child has the correct level books and the right genres for each reading unit. The classroom libraries are constantly being refreshed and there are more than enough wonderful books to support our literacy curriculum. All of the children will have a wide variety of choices that they will love to read!

I look forward to sharing more information with you during our Curriculum Night on September 17 and hoping to meet you all during our first Family Friday on September 7. Some other upcoming events are P.S. 39's welcome dinner on Saturday September 15 and our first PA meeting on Tuesday September 25. I am looking forward to a very successful year in third grade!

Parent-Teacher Communication

- We try our best to be extremely responsive to parent concerns. The best way to reach us is through email. We will respond as quickly as we can. If you have any concerns it is best to contact us first. We are often able to clarify any questions or concerns that you have immediately. Based on professional experience, we have seen issues arise due to miscommunication, especially within public, social, and internet forums. Therefore we are respectfully requesting that you have a private conversation with us and give us an opportunity to resolve any issue that may arise. Of course, if we cannot resolve your concern we would encourage you to speak to Ms. De Paz or Mrs. McCarthy because often they can be very helpful. We want to work together to make sure your child has a great school year. Below you will find our class schedule. Please keep in mind that changes may occur throughout the school year.

<p style="text-align: center;">Ms. Li 3-202</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Monday: Period 2 - 9:40 - 10:30 Science - Ms. Long</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Tuesday: Period 1 - 8:50 - 9:40 Science - Mr. Deutsch</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Wednesday: Period 3- 10:30 - 11:20 Science- Ms. Long</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Thursday: Period 2- 9:40 - 10:30 Gym- Mr. Bacovic</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Friday: Period 6- 1:00 - 1:50 Art- Ms. Bernstein</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Email: Ms. Li: Lli@ps39.org</p>

As you know Tuesday afternoons from 2:45-3:30 will be dedicated to Parent Engagement time. This 40-minute time period will be used for face to face meetings, telephone conversations, written correspondence with families, report cards, progress reports and preparing for any parent engagement activities.

Absentee Note

Print student's First and Last name

class number

REASON FOR ABSENCE

[For extended absences or chronic conditions, a doctor's note is required in addition to the parent's note.]

PARENT'S OR GUARDIAN'S SIGNATURE

Absentee Note

Print student's First and Last name

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