

## **Welcome to Third Grade!**

**I am so excited to have you in my class! We are at the beginning of a yearlong adventure, and we're all members of the same excursion. We all need to be ready, on a daily basis, to do our best work, and help others too.**

**It is my goal to help make each student feel like this is their home away from home, where acceptance, learning and understanding are felt every single day.**

**You, your parents and I will be working together to help you be the best you can be!  
Here's to a GREAT YEAR!**

**Mrs. Lloyd**

**Included here is helpful information that will make our year run smoothly. If at any time you have questions, please feel free to give me a call, or send me an e-mail.**

### **Classroom Rules**

**In addition to the school wide rules, we will be adding the following classroom rules:**

- 1) Follow directions the 1st time given**
- 2) Stay on task and be prepared**
- 3) Keep hands, feet, mouth and objects to yourself**
- 4) Respect everyone and everything**
- 5) Make wise choices**
- 6) Have fun learning!**

### **Classroom Discipline**

**I believe that children need to learn to manage themselves and make choices. Some of the choices we make have consequences. I also believe that public humiliation is not the way to build children into responsible adults. With this in mind, your child will be given 11 tickets that they are responsible for the entire year. 6 of these tickets are behavior tickets and 5 of these tickets will be privilege tickets. The goal is to keep all 11 tickets all week. If they have an infraction of the rules, they pay a ticket. If they need to visit the bathroom, sharpen a pencil etc. at an unassigned time, they lose a privilege ticket. (Please note I give many opportunities to do all of the things they lose privilege tickets for. Also, if your child has a medical condition that they need to visit the bathroom more often, please talk with me privately and arrangements will be made with no penalty.) At the end of the week the students will be rewarded on a punch card with one punch for every 2 tickets kept. A full punch card may be turned in for a trip to the prize box.**

### **Math:**

**Homework will be given daily that is tied to the daily lesson. Details will be posted on my blog. Students are required to memorize multiplication facts in third grade so there may be some additional practice sent home later in the year.**

### Word Study:

Quest Academy uses the “Words Their Way” spelling program. The philosophy of this spelling program is to teach the students the spelling patterns and rules and not to memorize words for a test. The students will be assessed and grouped as well as placed into groups that are appropriate for the individual child’s level.

The students are responsible for completing the 4 different spelling assignments/word sorts each week for homework (along with the word we do in class with spelling). I will post the spelling words on my blog at the beginning of every week. The students will use these spelling words cards for different homework assignments. Spelling and dictation tests will be given on Fridays. The spelling test will not look like a typical spelling test; it will be a multiple choice test and mirror what the End of Level test questions might look like. We would like all students to get at least an 80% on these specific spelling patterns.

### Poetry:

At the beginning of each month, the students will be given a sheet (colored) of poetry to memorize and pass off throughout the month for an oral language experience. They are required to learn at least one poem for a grade within the month. We will be learning all about poetry throughout the year. Poetry is a third grade standard in language arts. This will help the children with fluency and memorization as well.

### Reading:

This will consist of a variety of different reading techniques. 1. Classroom Reading: We will work with words using phonics to decode words. We will also be reading to each other in small cooperative groups and pairs. 2. Silent Reading: Students will have the opportunity to read silently for 10-15 minutes daily from a book of their choice. 3. Small Group Instruction: During small group instruction I will be working with small groups that will focus on individualized reading needs. 4. Novel Reading: I will read to the class daily from some of my favorite novels. We will complete many novels this year! 5. Guided Reading Groups: Each group of students will meet with me 3 times a week for a guided reading lesson while the other students are rotating through literacy centers.

Students will be responsible for reading 20 minutes a night for homework. This will include Razz Kids time as well.

### Absent Work

I will help your child complete any work they miss if they are absent. If they are going to be absent for several days, please contact me so I can give you a few things to help them stay caught up on the work they miss. It is difficult to send work with you, as I plan according to what the students need and adjust my plans for the week on a day to day basis. It is much easier to help them make up missed work or concepts during tutoring.

## **Homework**

The most important part of homework is the 20 minutes of reading assigned for each day. Please take the opportunity to listen to your child read. This is important for fluency as well as comprehension. Reading homework and Math Fluency begins the first day of school. Additional homework will be added as we learn procedures and start into the curriculum. Homework will include a daily spelling sort, and most likely a math website or math game. The instructions to complete homework along with detailed instructions for assignments will be posted on the blog on Monday of each week. Homework reporting will also be on the blog. Before Monday of each week, please enter your child's reading time, the sorts completed and the math activities they chose for the week. Anyone who does not have their homework reported will be charged a ticket on Monday. This ticket will be returned if their homework is reported, on paper, by Tuesday. No tickets will be returned after this day for late homework.

SIS Online Gradebook: Parents have full access to SIS. I will update student scores every Friday. I would encourage parents to check SIS weekly to check for missing assignments or to see test scores. You will receive all the log-in information to get into your child's grades soon (if you don't already know it). Report cards can also be viewed on the SIS Online Gradebook. Due to the fact that Quest is a paperless school, I will not send home hard copies of report cards (unless you don't have the resources). Contact me if you'd like me to send a paper copy of your report card.

## **GRADING:**

<b>Numeric Mark:</b>	<b>Percent:</b>	<b>Numeric Mark:</b>	<b>Percent:</b>
4	96%	3.7	92%
3.5	88%	3.2	84%
3	80%	2.7	76%
2.5	72%	2.2	68%
2	64%	1.7	60%
1.5	56%	1.2	52%
1	51%-0%		

## **Birthdays**

In following the school's No Food policy, please do not send edible treats for your child's birthday. Instead, I would like your child to bring his/her favorite picture book that they will read to the class. We are reading chapter books, but a picture book allows your child to give a presentation using expression and fluency. There are also many reading strategies we learn when using a picture book. They will bring their book home with them at the end of the day. Summer birthdays will be celebrated on a day of their choice in May.

### **Restroom Procedures**

Students should use the restroom before school, at morning recess, lunch recess, and afternoon recess. Please encourage your child to use the restroom during these times so student learning and teaching is not interrupted. I am very understanding in emergency situations.

### **Attendance**

I would really appreciate if your child is on time each day. If your child is sick, please keep them home. If you are planning vacations during the school year, please keep these dates in mind:

Labor Day- September 1

Fall Break- October 15-17

Thanksgiving Break- November 24-28

Winter Break- December 22-January 2

Martin Luther King Jr. Day- January 19

President's Day- February 16

Spring Break- March 30-April 3

Memorial Day- May 25

### **Uniform Policy**

See the Quest Academy Parent Handbook for the policy. Please ensure that your student is in compliance with the school uniform policy.

I hope this year will be an exciting and rewarding experience for your child. Feel free to contact me by phone or by email [nlloyd@questac.org](mailto:nlloyd@questac.org) if you have any questions or concerns. Our blog and the school website will also have helpful information:

<http://questac.org/>

<http://qacblogs.org/nichol.lloyd/>

Please sign below, saying that you have read through the classroom rules and procedures with your student. Then read the Class Blog information and mark yes or no to having your child's picture posted on the blog. Then return this paper to school as soon as possible. If a paper is not returned, I will assume it is OK to post your child on the blog.

#### **Rules and Procedures Return Slip**

I have read through the classroom rule and procedures.

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_

**Class Blog**

**Parents and Students,**

**Our class has our own blog that can be accessed through the school website by clicking on Faculty, Third Grade and then my name. This is a great way for us to share what we are doing in class. I would like to post some of our pictures from our class activities. Names and other personal information will NOT be posted with these pictures. Please mark whether or not you give your permission for your child's picture to be posted on our blog and sign below.**

**Thank you,  
Mrs. Lloyd**

**Yes, I give my permission for my child's picture to be posted.**

**No, I do NOT give permission for my child's picture to be posted.**

**Parent's Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_**

**Please complete the following survey and return it to school.**

**Thank you!**

**Parent Survey**

**Child's Name \_\_\_\_\_**

**Parent's Names \_\_\_\_\_**

**Please tell me about your child**

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**How much does your child read at home?**

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**Would you be able to volunteer in the classroom? \_\_\_\_\_**

**Weekly Basis**

**Special Activities (Apple Carving Day, Witch Dressing Day, Potlatch Day, Iron Kid Day, etc.)**

**Every other Week**

**Fieldtrips**

**Other \_\_\_\_\_**

**Please tell me the best way to contact you:**

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