Welcome to Mrs. Monson’s 3rd grade class!

This year our theme is: “Rocketing to High Student Learning: Blast Off!” I am so excited to be teaching this year! I’m ready to make this year a great one. The information below will be helpful for you to reference throughout the year.

**Communication:** Communication between home and school is very important. I will make my best efforts to communicate regularly in notes sent home, occasional emails or phone calls about successes or concerns about a student. Feel free to contact me if you have a question or concern. My email is [cmonson@hawthornacademy.org](mailto:cmonson@hawthornacademy.org) and you may also reach me by calling the main office: 801-260-3040.

**School Rules:** We follow a school-wide policy of behavior.

1. Be Responsible- be prepared for class, complete and turn in assignments on time, and arrive on time for class.

2. Be Respectful-Raise your hand to speak, be an attentive listener, speak respectfully, and be kind.

3. Be Positive- follow directions, work together, and help your teachers.

4. Be on Task-Know what is expected and do it!

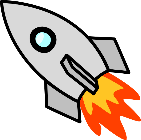
5. Be Safe- keep hands, feet and objects to yourself, follow school safety procedures. 

**Behavior:** I do my best to make the classroom an enjoyable and safe place to learn. I believe that positive reinforcement is the best way to have a fun and orderly classroom. As a reward for good behavior, the whole class, table groups and individuals can receive points toward a reward that is decided by the class. Examples of rewards are: toy day, game day, kickball, and other fun activities that your students can earn. Unfortunately, sometimes there will be behavior problems in the classroom. If a problem is disrupting class time or is causing harm to any of my students, I will follow these simple steps. First the student will receive a verbal warning from me in private. If the student persists in this behavior, then I will remove them from the situation that is causing problems (change seats, remove a distracting object, etc.). If the problem persists after my own reasonable efforts, I will contact the parents of the student by phone or email. If your child endangers others, they may need to visit the principal’s office.

**Attendance:** It is very important that your student is at school and ready to learn. It can be very hard to catch up since important and new material will be taught daily. To help students catch up on missed work, I will have an absent work folder that will be filled with the handouts and assignments that the student missed. To excuse absences, please call the office or you can excuse your student at http://www.hawthornacademy.org/excuse-student-absense.

**Homework:** Homework will be taken home on Monday and returned by Friday. Homework will consist of these three activities.

* Spelling: A list of spelling words will be sent home each week. Students are expected to practice and write their words each night.
* Math: There will be 1-2 worksheets each week to help the students review what they have learned in class.
* Reading: Students are expected to read for **20** minutes each night. This reading is very important for the success of your student. I also encourage parents to listen to your student read aloud each night to help develop fluency. Students should track their reading on rtsutah.org. I will send home information about how to sign up for Road to Success. This is a fun program that gives rewards for reading each night! There are many awards that can be won from just reading regularly. Please let me know if you do not have access to internet at home, so that your child can log on at school.

**Book Reports:** The students will be completing four book reports throughout the year. These will not be traditional book reports because the students will have some choice on how they present their information they learned from their book. I will post the options for the book reports on my website and I will also give a hard copy of instructions and expectations to the students when the first book report approaches.

**Library:** Each week your child will go to the library. They will be checking out a book to bring home. Your child will be responsible to return the book the following week in order to check out another book. Lost or damaged books will need to be paid for.

**Curriculum**

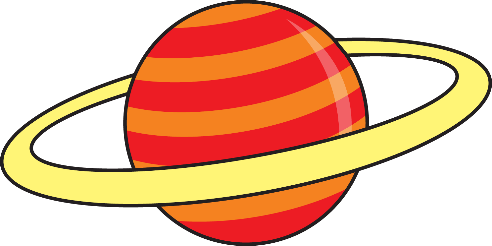
**Literacy:** Third grade is an important year to literacy. The students will start to use reading to research and gain information. We will be working on reading comprehension of both fiction and nonfiction texts. The students will also be writing formally and informally every day through journals, persuasive writing, narratives, and response to literature.

**Math:** The students will be using their addition and subtraction skills to begin multiplication and division. My approach to math is to allow the students to explore and try many different methods to finding the correct answer. I will act as a guide as the students learn why different methods and algorithms work. I would encourage parents to quiz their students on their math facts to help solidify their classroom learning.

**Science:** The students will be learning about the solar system and other aspects of physical science. My approach to science is to be as interactive and accurate as possible so that your student will have an interactive and enriching experience.

**Social Studies:** The students will be learning about communities, cultures, and civic responsibility. They will learn how to contribute to their communities and how to be a good citizen.

**IB:** As an International Baccalaureate school, Hawthorn has specific “learner profiles” or student goals that they want your student to achieve: Inquirer, Thinker, Communicator, Risk-taker, Knowledgeable, Principled, Caring, Open-minded, Balanced, and Reflective. These goals will be taught throughout the school year.

**Grading:** Your child’s work will be graded based on this criteria. Grades will be reported online through Aspire weekly.

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| **A** | **90-100%** |
| **B (Many students will be in this range)** | **80-89%** |
| **C** | **70-79%** |
| **D** | **60-69%** |
| **F** | **0-59%** |

**Citizenship:** The behavior and work ethic of your student will also be graded based on this scale.

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| H | Student shows maximum cooperation in school rules and contributes to the qualities of the IB Learner Profile– (e.g., inquirers, thinkers, knowledgeable, reflective, risk-takers, principled, communicators, balanced, caring, and open minded). |
| S | Student follows school and classroom rules.  Student shows signs of contributing to the IB Learner Profile and/or student is tardy 4 times. |
| N | Student makes little effort to observe rules or to contribute to the IB Learner Profile and/or student is tardy 5 times. |
| U | Student ignores responsibilities and class rules and/or student is tardy 6 or more times. |

Classroom Supplies: Here is a list of supplies that your student will need for the school year. Please bring these supplies on the first day of school.

* 2 dozen sharpened pencils
* 6 pack glue sticks
* 4 spiral notebooks‐labeled with student’s name
* 3 durable folders‐labeled with student’s name
* 1 box 8 count or more crayons
* 2 packages notebook filler lined paper‐wide
* 1 ruler‐ labeled with student’s name
* 1 8 count or larger package of colored pencils
* 1 8 count or larger package of markers
* 6 dry erase markers (chisel tip or fine, as we will use both)
* 1 pair of child-sized scissors
* Post it notes

Mrs. Monson’s Wish List: Here are some supplies that can be donated to our classroom. You may drop them off at any time during the year. Thank you in advance!

* Boxes of tissues
* Hand sanitizer
* Sanitizer wipes
* Gently used books to grow our class library!
* Paper towels
* Printer paper
* Magnets
* Permanent markers