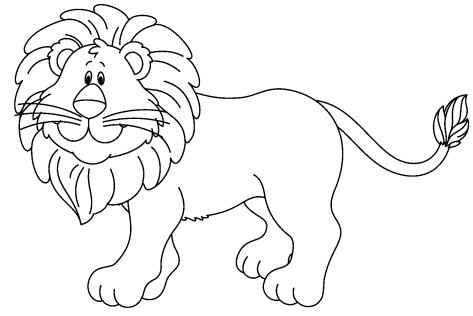


Welcome!!



Dear Parents of Incoming Third Graders,

Greetings. Welcome to the 3rd grade at Providence Christian Academy. In just a few short months the doors of third grade classrooms will be opening and we want you to know that we are eagerly anticipating the moment. There are so many wonderful and challenging things to learn in third grade. We are looking forward to the opportunities that lay ahead for exploring God's world together. Our prayer for the upcoming year is that we would be able to examine the things of this world in the light of His Word, and that our students will be better equipped to become lifetime learners.

We are looking forward to meeting you and your child, and anticipate a fruitful, rewarding school year. Here are some suggested activities to better prepare your child for a successful 3rd grade year.

1. Read Aloud, Read Along, Read Together, or Alone

Reading to your child with expression and enthusiasm is probably the best tool for preparing your child to read alone. By pausing at the end of sentences, emphasizing certain words for greater meaning, and enunciating properly, you can set an example for your child and build enthusiasm for the written word. Actively listening to your child read a story or book is a great way to stimulate your child's imagination and interest. By asking your child questions about the text, asking what might happen next, or why a character is behaving or talking a certain way builds critical thinking skills in young children. Encourage your child to create mental pictures of what is being read. Take turns reading. If you need some good reading material, check with your local library for a summer reading program, or refer to PCA's summer reading list for age-appropriate material.

2. Drawing With Words

Encourage your child to write! Keeping a daily journal or diary is a splendid way to record their thoughts and feelings, and reinforces handwriting skills. Remind them to write in complete sentences, and to describe what they have seen, heard, smelled, tasted, or experienced that day. They will love having a little book of

private thoughts. Suggest that they write letters, thank you notes, newspaper articles, and short skits. Ask them to read aloud what they have written.

3. Count Your Minutes, Money and Blessings

You can help your child keep up with math skills by providing opportunities to count money. Incoming third graders should be able to count with pennies, nickels, dimes and quarters. Practice addition, subtraction and multiplication with coins. Measuring time is a skill that can be learned at any age. Help your child develop a daily schedule by teaching them how to calculate the time necessary for hygiene, chores, and travel. Use a large-faced clock with moveable hands to practice telling time. Use flash cards to practice addition, subtraction and multiplication facts in the car or at the dinner table. Count your BLESSINGS-literally!! Each day, ask your child to list three or more things for which he or she can thank God. You may want to challenge your child to create written lists of blessings, adding to them as the days go by.

4. Run and Play!

Encourage your children to enjoy the outdoors. Sunshine and unstructured playtimes are necessary ingredients for healthy children, and provide natural outlets for developing imagination and creativity. Have fun!!

Have a wonderful summer. See you soon!

PCA 3rd Grade Teachers

