

# Third Grade Monthly Newsletter

## February/March 2019

### 5<sup>th</sup> Edition

**Dates to Remember**  
March 29- Last Day of Quarter 3  
April 1- No school (Grade Prep)  
April 15-19- Spring Break

### What We Are Learning

**Reading** - We are learning about character traits and how those traits help us better understand the characters and the book! We've learned how to notice things that the character says and does, and determine what that tells us about the character. We have noticed patterns in the behavior of a character, and considered what we can determine about that character from those patterns. We will interweave the concepts of story mountains and character traits. We will discuss how the author's craft effects the story. (SOLs: 3.3b, 3.4 c-f, 3.5 d-m)

**Writing** - We've begun writing an adapted fairy tale of our choice. We have learned about several traditional fairy tales, and we have discussed how to adapt the story by changing the characters, the events, or the motivation of the characters. We will continue to grow in our story-telling abilities as we consider our craft as authors. We will continue to learn how to edit and revise our work to make it even better. (SOLs: 3.7 a,b; 3.9 d,e,g,h)

**Social Studies**- We've learned about natural, human, and capital resources and Economics: trade, supply, demand, surplus, scarcity, specialization, and interdependence through small group activities. In addition, students learned about Ancient Egypt's geography and its major contributions. (SOLs: 3.2, 3.5a-c, 3.7, 3.8, 3.9, 3.10)

**Math**- We are concluding unit 7 on fractions (S.O.L. 3.5). Students focused on fractions greater than 1. They have been creating models to represent those fractions and using the models to identify equivalent fractions (mixed numbers or improper fractions). We have also been adding and subtracting fractions with common denominators.

**Science** - Students will investigate and understand the six types of simple machines (lever, screw, pulley, wheel and axle, inclined plane, and wedge) and their uses. Students will engage in hands-on experiments and activities that extends their knowledge of such concepts.

### A Sneak Preview

- ★ **Reading**- Finish character studies, then research clubs
- ★ **Writing**- Persuasive speeches, petitions and editorials
- ★ **Social Studies**- Geography, Economics, Ancient Egypt
- ★ **Math**- Unit 8 : Geometry ( S.O.L. 3.11); Unit 11: Data and Probability
- ★ **Science**- Simple and compound machines, physical properties of objects, patterns and cycles occurring in nature

### Resources:

#### PTA Website:

<https://oakridge.apsva.us/pta/family-websites/>

#### Math:

<https://play.dreambox.com/login/bqt4/6d9r>

**Reading:** <https://www.mackinvia.com/>

### Contacting the team

Coates (Science)- [sheree.coates@apsva.us](mailto:sheree.coates@apsva.us)

Driscoll (Humanities)- [ava.driscoll@apsva.us](mailto:ava.driscoll@apsva.us)

Fahrenthold (Humanities)- [jennifer.fahrenthold@apsva.us](mailto:jennifer.fahrenthold@apsva.us)

Welch (Math)- [james.welch@apsva.us](mailto:james.welch@apsva.us)

De Lanoy (ESOL)- [danielle.delanoy@apsva.us](mailto:danielle.delanoy@apsva.us)