

September 8, 2017

Dear Grade Three Parents,

It has been a very busy and exciting first week in grade three. As your children are settling into their new routine, I would like to take the opportunity to introduce myself. My name is Kim Coley, and I am thrilled to be starting my fifth year as the grade three teacher at Diamond Elementary School. I was born and raised in New York. After receiving my undergraduate degree, I joined an Americorps program that worked with at-risk inner city youth in Baltimore. I then spent a year as an English instructor in Budapest, Hungary, before returning to the United States to work with disadvantaged children in Philadelphia. After returning to school to get my master's degree in teaching, I taught 2nd and 3rd grade for several years in Maryland. I moved to British Columbia nine years ago when my husband got a position as an English professor at Simon Fraser University, and we received our Canadian citizenship four years ago. I have two daughters, ages 10 and 15, both of whom love living in the beautiful Vancouver area as much as I do. I feel privileged to be returning to the 3rd grade classroom at such a wonderful school.

I look forward to getting to know you and your families better in the coming weeks. Please feel free to come into our classroom in the mornings before or after school to meet with me, or call the school to schedule an appointment. If you are unable to come in to the school at these times, we can communicate via e-mail. My e-mail address is . Please put Diamond Elementary in the subject box of your messages so that I will know to check it as soon as possible.

Grade 3 Homework: Your child will have daily homework assignments that will complement and reinforce what he or she is learning in the classroom. It is crucial to support them by ensuring that all assignments are completed to the best of their ability and on time, following all directions carefully. In addition, your child will have spelling words to study for a weekly spelling review every Friday; hence, it will be important to help them prepare for this in order to experience greater success. If for any reason your son/daughter is having difficulty completing these assignments, or if you would like additional information on how to support them, please feel free to contact me for ideas.

Grade 3 Reading: Our daily reading program requires students to read for at least twenty minutes each night. It is still extremely important at this age that your child read aloud to an adult on a regular basis in order to help develop their fluency, accuracy and oral reading skills. Please ensure that the reading log is signed each day after they have completed their reading. In addition, the homework assignment each Wednesday will be a response to the home reading book your child has chosen.

Snack and Lunch: Please provide a healthy snack and lunch for your child daily that will ensure they get the nutrients they need to be successful at school. Due to allergies, please make sure that all snacks and lunches are nut free. They are also

encouraged to bring a water bottle to class to keep them hydrated throughout the day.

Sharing: Students are encouraged to bring in something for sharing time every other week. It can be a piece of news, an interesting story, something they made, or a fascinating object (no toys, please). Each month your child will also be asked to bring in something more specific to share, such as a favourite summer memory or a favourite song. We will discuss ideas for this more structured sharing activity in class at the beginning of each month. Attached you will find the sharing schedule for this year.

Parties and Events: Families often want to organize a birthday party or other event for their children and friends. Please be aware that it is the philosophy at our school to try and be inclusive to everyone in the class. As such, we request that invitations to parties either include all of the boys, all of the girls, or the entire class. Another alternative is to send in a special treat for the students to share with the class on your son or daughter's birthday. Please feel free to see Jeanne or myself if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Kim Coley

GRADE 3 SHARING SCHEDULE

WEEK 1	WEEK 2
<u>MONDAY</u> JIYAH RANAK	<u>MONDAY</u> BIRKARAN JASMINE
<u>TUESDAY</u> RIYA REMY BHARATH	<u>TUESDAY</u> HARJAS KABIR DIYA P.
<u>WEDNESDAY</u> ZARA SUJAAN	<u>WEDNESDAY</u> ESHAAN EMILY
<u>THURSDAY</u> COLE NADYA	<u>THURSDAY</u> DIYA S. JAWAD
<u>FRIDAY</u> REINA ISHAAN	<u>FRIDAY</u> AMISHA HARJODH

SEPTEMBER - Summer Break Memory

OCTOBER - My Family

NOVEMBER - Favourite Book

DECEMBER - Holiday Traditions

JANUARY - December Break Memory

FEBRUARY - Current Events

MARCH - Show Your Creative Side

APRIL - Teach the Class

MAY - Favourite Song

JUNE - Your Favourite Grade Three Memory

