

**Dear Parents,**

Your child will be participating in the following English Language Arts units of study this quarter:

**Inspired by the Sea****Creative, Inventive, and Notable People****Reading Literature and Informational Text**

Students will ask and answer questions about a text. They will read biographies and describe how important events in the person's life are related to each other. When discussing how parts of stories, plays, and poems fit together, students will use terms such as *chapter*, *scene*, and *stanza*. They will also describe characters in a story. They will share how their own point of view is the same or different from that of the characters in a story. When reading informational text, students will use illustrations to help them understand the meaning of a text.

Reading Foundational Skills (Word Knowledge and Fluency)

Students will read grade appropriate sight words, multi-syllable words, and words with common prefixes and suffixes. They will read books and poems fluently with purpose and understanding.

Writing

Students will conduct short research projects and write informative texts. They will strengthen their writing by planning, revising, and editing their work.

Listening and Speaking

Students will participate in discussions by asking and answering questions and explaining their own ideas. They will practice listening and speaking to others respectfully. Students will speak clearly and in complete sentences. They will create audio recordings.

Language (Conventions of Standard English)

Students will learn about verbs and adverbs. They will use simple verb tense such as *I walked*; *I walk*; *I will walk*. They will also use irregular verbs such as *break*, *broke*, and *broken*. When writing complex sentences, they will use conjunctions such as *whether*, *therefore*, *either*, *before*, *while*, and *until*. They will use commas in addresses and dialogue. In spelling, they will add suffixes to base words and use spelling patterns to write words. Students will determine the meaning of words and phrases in third grade texts and topics.

Handwriting & Keyboarding

Third graders are expected to maintain legible manuscript on lined paper with proper proportion, size and spacing. This quarter, students will learn to form uppercase cursive letters. They will write words in cursive and self-assess their writing using model letters and words. When using the keyboard, students will continue using the home keys while typing words and sentences with punctuation. They will increase the proportion of time they type without looking at the keyboard. Students will practice creating, saving and retrieving files.