



# **Welcome to Third and Fourth Grade Curriculum Night**

2019-2020 School Year



# Who are the teachers??

Lani Denny and Jill Voras

- Background
- Why MJDS
- Fun Fact



# What will the kids be learning this year?

Third and fourth grade is a time of growth and transition; it is a period of development and refinement of previously learned skills. During this year, students learn to become more responsible for their own learning and homework, as well as more self-sufficient.



# ELA

## **LANGUAGE ARTS**

Schoolwide's Reading Fundamentals units of study allow teachers to use the gradual release of responsibility within the workshop structure; which in turn, provides students with an opportunity to watch modeling and thinking aloud by their teachers, practice with a friend, and then finally, independent application. This instructional model also creates an environment that supports literacy development and concentrates on print rich walls; tools that demonstrate thinking; and classroom libraries that support choice and interest and genre awareness.

“Because writing matters for success in school, the community, and the workplace, Schoolwide's Writing Fundamentals Units of Study have a central mission to improve students' writing by providing explicit instruction that focuses on demonstrating why writers write and how writers communicate their ideas effectively. In order for students to write with power and purpose, the Writing Fundamentals units use quality literature and informational texts to provide authentic examples of various genres and text types.”

Students follow a specific writing process: Immersion, Generating Ideas, Selecting, Collecting, Drafting, Revising, Editing and Publishing. Research tells us that students will have a deeper love for writing, and become better writers when following a writing process.



# Units...to name a few

Fiction

Non-fiction

Poetry

Biography

Author Study



# Math

## MATH

MJDS, grades K-5, is using *Math Expressions*. "This program combines the elements of a standards-based mathematics program with traditional approaches, while emphasizing in-depth mathematics through real world problem solving, modeling, conceptual language and "Math Talk" to help students build mathematical ideas that make sense to them." *Math Expressions* is a researched based program authored by Dr. Karen Fuson. She developed this curriculum after studying how children all around the work conceptualize math.

We believe that *Math Expressions* will help to create math thinkers and not just math doers. Our goal is to broaden our students' knowledge base for mathematics while progressing as rapidly as is appropriate.

Third and Fourth grade will also be using a program called *Freckle*. Freckle is a practice website (and app) for grades K–12 that addresses standards-based skills and concepts in core subject areas. Students work at *their* levels in math, ELA, Social Studies and Science. They are engaged and challenged, and never face material that is too difficult or easy for them.

# Units



In Third Grade:

Math Expressions covers 7 different units throughout the year. The topics are:

- Multiplication and Division with 0-5, 9, and 10
- Multiplication and Division with 6s, 7s, 8s, and Multiply with Multiples of 10
- Measurement, Time and Graphs
- Multidigit Addition and Subtraction
- Write Equations to Solve Word Problems
- Polygons, Perimeter, and Area
- Explore Fractions

In Fourth Grade:

Math Expressions covers 7 different units throughout the year. The topics are:

- Place value and Multidigit Addition and subtraction
- Multiplication and Division with whole numbers
- Equations and Multi step Word Problems
- Measurement-Converting measurements, area and perimeter
- Fraction concepts and Operations- Denominators, multiplying fractions
- Fractions and Decimals
- Geometry-Angles, triangles and measuring angles



# Social Studies

We will begin our social studies unit studying geographic, economic, governmental concepts through the lens of the United States. They will study the physical geography of the United States as well as the cultural characteristics of regions of the country. Students will analyze human systems in the United States by exploring the interaction between the people and their natural environments, the movement of people, products, and ideas, and the distinguishing features of various regions within the country. Students are introduced to the purposes, structure, and function of our federal government. They also examine the relationship between the rights and responsibilities of citizens in a democratic republic. Students examine current issues facing the United States and practice making and expressing informed decisions as citizens.





# Science

In science, third and fourth grade will study habitats, ecosystems and pollution. By the end of the science unit, students will be able to: Identify various ecosystems. Explain what ecosystem services are and how humans benefit from them. Point out the impacts of ecosystem services on their local environments and personal lives. Consider and discuss the impacts of ecosystem services on their daily lives and on human populations. Consider ways to engage with ecosystems and nature to improve their personal lives. Because the units offer the opportunity for inquiry-based questioning, students will create passion projects based on the content they are learning.



# Jewish Studies

We aim to inspire students to find what they love about Judaism while also providing experiences and skills that allow them to access the rich traditions, texts, cultures, ideas and people that are all a part of what it means to be Jewish.

In third grade, we will focus on the stories in the book of Bereshit, including stories of the creation and the stories of our fathers and mothers. We will also learn about the Hebrew calendar and expand our knowledge and experience of the holidays. We will conclude the year with a unit about Israel.



# Hebrew

. We begin the year with reviewing reading, cursive writing and vocabulary. This year the students will study the programs “Hakol Hadash” and “Haverim”. Learning is based on Israeli authentic content and Israeli culture. We use all 4 language skills - speaking, listening, reading and writing in order to practice Hebrew communication in class. Lessons are conducted in Hebrew, as a whole class, groups, pairs or individual work. Students will be assessed by both oral and written quizzes.



# Innovation

Students will visit our Innovation Hub and continue to work on skills that will develop analysis and creativity. Students will have access to many invaluable tools such as: makerspace equipment, virtual reality, Bloxels, Sphero, Beebots, Osmo, and the list goes on!

# Specials

Gym-three days a week

Music-Gev. Cohen and Conservatory

Art

Computer-digital citizenship/[blogging/typing.org/coding](http://blogging.typing.org/coding)

Library-grow/leisure books

Cursive-third



# Homework

Students are expected to read 20 min a night. At times, they might be asked to respond to their reading.

Students will receive math homework from time to time.

We expect that students do their homework when assigned and that you check and sign their assignment notebook on a daily basis.

Students need to bring their homework folder and assignment notebook each day to school.



# Field Trips....just a few

Madison

Art Museum

Rainbow

Skateland

Old World Wisconsin?



# Friday Folder

Please empty and look through your child's Friday Folder every weekend. This is where you will find your child's completed work and and communications from the school or outside agencies. The Folder should be returned EVERY Monday!





# Blogs

<http://edublogs.mjds.org/whats happening in 3rd grade>

<http://edublogs.mjds.org/whats happening in 4th grade/>



**Questions ?????**