

Introducing

I am Mrs. Samantha Kelly (Sam) and I am so so excited to be your students' teacher this year! I am 34 years old and this is my 12th year teaching. I love to read, practice yoga, and ride my bike! I have two beautiful daughters who I love to the moon and back!

Here are a few favorites of my daughters ~ Georgia and June!

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I love to read and am a huge fan of our Peleton and practicing yoga. I love being active! I also enjoy being outdoors and having fun with my family!





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- 7:20 Students arrive. Breakfast.
- 7:45 Morning Meeting

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- 8:05 Reading Workshop
- 9:30 Writing Workshop
- 10:00 Art / Music / P.E.
- 10:55 Words Their Way
- 11:10 Science / Social Studies
- 11:40 Lunch / Recess
- 12:30 Math Workshop
- 1:00 Library (Fridays)
- 2:10 Recess
- 2:35 Dismissal begins.

ACADEMICS Reading

This year students will deepen their comprehension skills. Some of the biggest shifts in reading instruction during third grade include:

- transitioning from learning to read (the foundations) to reading to learn (independent reading of instructional text)
- transitioning from reading a story (cueing the words) to deeply understanding and analyzing what has been read
- transitioning from picture books to a mix of picture books and chapter books

ACADEMICS WRITING

Students will learn how to write fiction stories and poems, and create informational pieces based on independent research. We will work to build our writing stamina and turn our writing into projects and presentations.

MATH

Students will become fluent in addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division. In addition to these skills, we will also learn about polygons, area and perimeter, fractions, time, money, and graphing.

ACADEMICS

SCIENCE / SOCIAL STUDIES

This year students will study electricity, magnets, life cycles, and weather during our science units.

Beginning this year, the third grade Social Studies curriculum will encompass all things Missouri...from history and famous Missourians, to economics and geography. Previously this was taught during the fourth grade year.

GRADES

Daily Work:

Your child's grades are based on how well he/she performs third grade level skills. While we will complete a lot of work in third grade, only a few items will be graded and recorded.

We will also often check classwork together. These assignments will not be recorded in the gradebook. These assignments will be marked with a "T" which indicates that we checked and discussed the work together.

Assessments:

Assessments will be graded and recorded for a grade on your child's report card.

HOMEWORK

Nightly homework will NOT be assigned, but...

Did you know that reading is exercise for your brain? It's true! A good book is like breathing chocolate air! (Trust me on this.) Reading 20 minutes every evening is really, REALLY good for your brain! Try it and see! This is the BEST kind of homework there is!

Optional math practice will come home periodically for your use at home. This does not need to be returned.



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The District puts together our supply lists...but the third grade list doesn't exactly match what we at Cedar Hill need! Don't worry—we think this will be a GOOD change for your family! Here are the only items we actually need from the list.

• 1 tote bag/backpack

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- 2 boxes of tissues
- 1 supply box/pouch
- 1 box of crayons (24 count)
- 4 glue sticks
- 1 large eraser
- 2 pocket folders w/ brads
- 24 #2 pencils
- 1 pair of student scissors (pointed)
- 2 composition notebooks, wide-lined
- 2 packs of 3x3 sticky notes
- 1 pack of 4 black dry erase Expo markers
- Boys: 1 container of unscented wipes
- Girls: 1 bottle of hand sanitizer

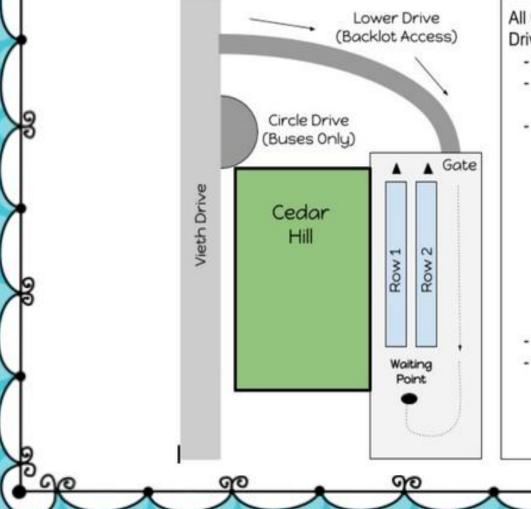
Our Mindful Classroom!

In our classroom, we will be utilizing a couple of mindfulness practices. These include mindful quiet moments and mindful movement. If you would like your student to have a yoga mat for this time, please feel free to send one. We can do all of these practices without a mat, so no pressure to purchase anything!

It is very common for students to need to take a break during the school day. Students are invited to take a break during any independent time (just not during instruction time). I'll have a procedure for asking to take a break, because there may be times that are better than others to take breaks!

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All Cars will enter Cedar Hill Backlot from Vieth Drive.

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- Follow backlot drive behind Cedar Hill.
- Staff will view Student Transportation Cards (Green Cards) before GATE.
- Follow Blacktop loop to assigned row and stop at a cone, if 1st car in each row.
 - Row 1: 1-10 cars in group
 - Row 2: 11-20 cars in group

If rows are full, stop at WAITING POINT

- Cars not in current dismissal group (Row 1 and 2) will wait behind both rows until students and cars are clear.
- Staff will signal to advance next group.
- General Advice: follow car in front of you if you are unsure. Please do not change rows or advance without direction to ensure safety and correct dismissal groupings.

This year the <u>water fountains will be turned on again</u>. Your child may wish to bring a water bottle to school instead. Our fountains are conveniently equipped with bottle fillers! Water bottles MUST have screw top lids that won't spill ~ and preferably are non-sweating with a drink spout. These water bottles are for classroom use and will not be taken outdoors at recess (but please let me know if your student requires one!).

We are also going to be *leaving our toys at home*, unless we need them for something before or after school. In this case they will stay in our backpacks during the school year.

<u>We take class bathroom breaks.</u> But OF COURSE if your student needs to use the bathroom during another time they can go AT ANY TIME...however to manage this logistically I have a pass system and a system of school currency for students who don't utilize the passes. Again, please please please let me know if I can make any special accommodations for your student!

I'm so excited!

Mrs. Kelly

The first day of the new school year is ALMOST here! This year will be like no other! One thing is for sure: We will learn and grow together! There will be things you don't know how to do yet and things you might be afraid to try, but it's okay... Actually, I call that an ADVENTURE! I'm here to help you be the very best Third Grader you can be! I'll see you soon!



email: samantha.kelly@jcschools.us

Intact

PHONE NUMBER: 573.690.1372-this is

my cell phone number! Save it and contact me at any time-I want to be available to you and your first contact if you have questions or concerns!!