



**“Must Know”  
Third Grade  
Handbook**

**Earl H. Slaughter  
Elementary  
2014-2015**

The Third Grade Team:  
Mrs. Lane, Mrs. Colwell, Mrs. Gregg, Mrs. Eiland  
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**Welcome to the Third Grade!** We are excited about the year ahead and all the new experiences we will encounter. This information is meant to familiarize you with Third Grade at Slaughter. Please feel free to contact your child's teacher if you have any questions or concerns. Thanks!

### **School Hours**

Please make sure that your child is here, unpacked, and in the classroom, from 8:00-3:00 everyday. When a student is late or leaves early they miss out on many learning opportunities, and they interrupt instruction for the entire class.

### **Morning Procedures**

Students eating breakfast should report to the cafeteria immediately to eat. All students are to go to the gym and sit in the appropriate line until the teachers pick up the students. Please make sure your child has plenty of time to eat breakfast and unpack their belongings prior to 8:00. Each child should be in the classroom, ready to begin learning when the bell rings. Daily morning announcements begin around the time of the tardy bell.

### **Dismissal Procedures**

School is over at 3:00. Please make appropriate arrangements for your child to be picked up or enrolled in an after school childcare program. We will organize the third grade students into lines according to how they go home: walk away, walk-up, car rider, bus rider, daycare, or Club 360. Please check the Slaughter parent handbook for more information on specific pick up procedures and school parking. The person responsible for picking up your child **must have the official Slaughter dismissal card** to pick up that student. If they don't have the official card they will need to go to the office and present their driver's license. If your child is a "car rider," the parent picking up will need to remain in their car and drive through the front, circle drive. If your child is a "walk-up," you will need to meet your child at the back of the school near the playground. **BRING THE OFFICIAL DISMISSAL CARD! If your child will be going home a different way, we must have a written notice or verbal knowledge of the change from the parent within a reasonable amount of time prior to the start of dismissal that day.**

### **Grades**

Progress reports will be sent home at the mid point of each nine week grading period. Report cards will go home every nine weeks. Please sign and return the documentation provided with each report so we know you saw your child's current grades. Please discuss your child's successes and areas for growth with them. A conference will be held with each parent at the end of the first nine weeks. Parents may ask for a conference with the teacher at any time to discuss their child's academic progress.

**School Visitors - Please do NOT park in the staff parking lots on the East and West sides of the building. We also ask you do not use these parking lots as drop off locations due to the number of teachers and students that are walking to the building. We can no longer**

park in the church parking lot. Please park along Dowell St. or on the far East part of Wolford St., away from the Carlisle-Wolford intersection.

If a parent or other visitor comes to the school for any reason, they **MUST** go to the front office first to sign in. Please wear the visitor badge/sticker in a visible location for the safety of all. If you're coming to eat lunch with your child, please meet your child in the cafeteria.

### Newsletters/Homework

Newsletters will be sent home via email and/or sent home in your students' daily folder.

Reading the weekly newsletter with your child is a great way to discuss the learning that takes place at school.

Homework will be sent home on Monday. Students are responsible for completing the daily activities and returning them each day.

*\*Parents, please allow your child to do the majority of the homework assignment. The purpose of homework is to make a connection between home and school, involve the family in the students' learning, and to solidify the child's learning by reviewing and practicing a concept or skill. If the child doesn't have the opportunity to do the thinking and complete the work, they will miss out on this learning opportunity. We want to see the students' writing, not the parents.*



### Meals and Snacks

Please make sure that your child begins each day with a good breakfast. Feel free to join your child for lunch. We do ask, however, that for the first two weeks of school, that parents do **not** come to lunch. This will enable students to learn the procedures and expectations during lunch. When a parent eats lunch with their child, they may only eat lunch with their own child. Other students may **NOT** join you at the parent table. You may bring outside lunch for your child and yourself, but please do not bring lunch for any of your child's friends.

We strongly suggest parents prepay several lunches by sending a check or cash made out to Slaughter Elementary. Please write "lunch money" on the memo line. All lunch money sent to school needs to be put in an envelope or baggie with the student's name, ID number, and teacher's name. You can also go online to apply money to their account. This will help our lunch line move more efficiently, and remove the risk of lost lunch money.

To help students make it through the day, we will have a daily healthy snack time. There are strict state guidelines about what constitutes a healthy snack. There can be **no chips, no cookies, no chocolate, no candy, and nothing with sugar as one of the first 2 ingredients** in the snack. Healthy snack ideas include crackers, non-sugary cereals, granola bars, fruit snacks, pretzels, fruit, cheese, raisins, etc. Please only send one snack per child. Please choose snacks your child can eat independently and do not require refrigeration or create a mess.

*\*\*\* Due to the prevalence of peanut allergies, please do not send snacks that include peanuts.*

We also encourage students to have a water bottle at their desk. We prefer that the bottles have a sport top to prevent spills. We can only have water in the classrooms so that we don't attract bugs. No juice, sport drinks, or powdered water flavor packets, please.



\*Please be sure to properly mark all lunch bags and water bottles with your child's name and grade level. This will help us quickly return the item if it is lost or misplaced.

**Toys/Playground Equipment:** Please do not allow your child to bring toys/electronic devices from home, unless their teacher sends home a note with specific directions. Items can easily get broken or lost at school, and they are often a distraction. No electronic toys at any time, including cell phones. Cell phones must be kept in back pack or turned into teacher when entering classroom. Sports/recreation equipment (basketballs, footballs, jump ropes) is allowed for recess only. However, students bring these items at their own risk. Slaughter is not responsible for loss or damage to these items. Recess equipment needs to be kept in the student's locker, and it's recommended that parents label the objects with their child's name.

### Daily Planners

Planners are sent home on a daily basis. Students write in what we did for the day. Any notes to the parents from the teacher regarding discipline will also be noted in the planner.

### Celebrations and Birthdays



If you would like to celebrate your child's birthday, please communicate with your child's teacher prior to make arrangements. **NO FOOD will be allowed for birthday celebrations this year.** This means no cupcakes, cookies, etc. You can however, send a special item such as pencils or erasers for each student in the class. Your child will be able to pass these out at the end of the day. Party invitations cannot be passed out at school unless the entire class is invited. We will still make your child feel special on their birthday. 😊 Thank you so much for your help in this area.

### Appropriate Clothing/Dress Code

Tank top straps must be wider than three finger tips width. Skirts, shorts, or dresses must be longer than fingertip length. No hats outside of recess, or other excessive accessories that could be distracting to the class. Parents will be called if a student is not in compliance.

**Recess** We have recess at noon, so please check the weather daily and dress your child appropriately. We will go outside as long as district weather guidelines allow for it. If it is too hot or too cold, or if it is raining, we will have indoor recess. During the cooler weather, we will go outside if the temperature and wind chill are above freezing. In the warmer weather, we will go outside if the temperature and heat index are below 100°F.

Please be sure you mark all outerwear with your child's name and grade level. This will help us quickly return the item if it is lost or misplaced. During the warmer weather, it can be cool in the building. You may want to send a light sweater/jacket with your child to keep in their locker in case they are too cold.

Recess is an extremely valuable socialization time that allows students to play freely, therefore recess is not intended for parent visit time. If parents do come to the playground at recess time, they will need to sign in at the front office first.



**Library books**

Your child will continue going to the library independently this year. He or she may check out 3 library books at a time. Library books CAN go home; however, if they are lost or damaged, they will need to be paid for.

**Thank you so much for your help in following these guidelines. It will really help our year go smoothly! We are excited to begin this journey with your child and you!**



**Sincerely,  
The Third Grade Teachers**

Please cut along dotted line and return signatures to school.

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We have read the third grade handbook, and we're looking forward to a great year!

X\_\_\_\_\_ Parent Signature

X\_\_\_\_\_ Student Signature

Teacher name\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ I do NOT want my child to buy EXTRA snacks in the cafeteria. (We will tell the cafeteria to flag their lunch account, so they can only buy the usual tray lunch, and not extra desserts, chips, etc. that cost extra money.) Left blank, your child will be able to spend money on extra foods: chips, desserts, etc. after they eat their lunch.