The main goal of our program is to help newcomers feel comfortable with their peers and environment. We work on students’ oral skills through games, role-playing, projects and dramatization. Children also develop reading and writing skills, emphasizing correct pronunciation and intonation. We have both beginner and intermediate/advanced classes.

We are thrilled to be using the Math Expressions program, and have aligned the curriculum with Common Core State Standards. The key content areas in 3rd grade Math include the following:

**Operations and Algebraic Thinking**
- Represent and solve problems involving multiplication and division.
- Understand properties of multiplication and the relationship between multiplication and division.
- Multiply and divide within 100.
- Solve problems involving the four operations, and identify and explain patterns in arithmetic.

**Number and Operations – Fractions**
- Develop understanding of fractions as numbers.
- Develop understanding of fractions as numbers.

**Measurement and Data**
- Solve problems involving measurement and estimation of intervals of time, liquid volumes, and masses of objects.
- Understand concepts of area and relate area to multiplication and to addition.
Music
Third grade students learn a varied repertoire of songs and rhythms. They learn to improvise melodies, variations and accompaniments. Also, they will be introduced to recorders and reading music.

Visual Arts
Teachers integrate the weekly art class where they are exposed to the world of art, artists, techniques and materials. Geometric and organic shapes, self portraits, sculpture, pop art, and painting are amongst media explored.

Physical Education
We explore basic and advanced movement forms, adventure learning, body awareness, rhythmic activities and motor skills throughout the year. Key units include gymnastics, volleyball, basketball, jump rope, floor hockey, climbing and team challenges.

Library
In addition to literacy-rich classroom learning, during weekly Library class, 3rd graders are exposed to quality children’s literature from around the world and learn specific research and library skills. Students also self select books to read and enjoy at home each week.

Computers/Technology
Technology is used as a tool for enhancing learning and teaching specific skills including problem solving, communication and decision making. 3rd graders visit the ES Computer Lab once weekly where typing skills, search engines, MS Word, Power Point and Brain Pop are introduced and students are immersed in projects. Furthermore, this year each Elementary grade level will have a full classroom set of I-Pads at their disposal. Students will use a variety of educational apps to enhance learning.

In March, 3rd graders journey to Guatavita and learn about its history, flora and fauna. They hike to the laguna and learn about camping basics during the one night, two-day trip at the well-equipped Club the Tomine. It’s awesome!

Homework
We support homework that fosters responsibility and inspires and reinforces learning. In 3rd grade, parents should assume the role of ‘coach.’ Teachers will provide about 30 minutes of homework, Monday through Thursday, including reading. This should still provide rest and family time for our students who work hard during the day.

Character Education
Our program is advanced by a dedicated and highly qualified staff comprised of homeroom, “Specials”, Spanish teachers, Math and Literacy Coaches, as well as professionals in the areas of ESL, Learning Support and Counseling.

• Use of Time / Shows Responsibility
• Cooperation / Contributes Positively
• Organization
• Self Control

Parent Involvement
You are our valued partners in educating your child. We welcome your involvement in our school. Please watch for opportunities for volunteering at school, and supporting your child’s learning at home.

Welcome to the Elementary School!
We are a dynamic and caring community committed to inspiring and celebrating excellence. We work to engage our students through a well rounded curriculum, research-based and innovative teaching methods, a variety of media, and supportive relationships between teachers, students and parents.

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We are delighted that you are a part of our Exceptional Elementary Family. We look forward to a wonderful year ahead and thank you in advance for all that you will do to support your child’s learning experience with us.

Enthusiastically yours,
Julie Hunt
PBX: 212-3511 Ext. 163
Tel: 359 9336
jhunt@cng.edu
Elementary School Principal

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