



# WELCOME TO 3Z

## Home of Mrs. Z's Busy Bees

Dear Third Grader,

Before we leave for the summer, I'd like to take a minute to welcome you to our third grade. I'm looking forward to a great year together, with many exciting adventures and challenges.

Third grade is a place where we begin to hone our reading skills. We work on becoming better readers in terms of fluency, comprehension and expression. We will examine story elements and analyze characters, their traits, and their motivations. In third grade we move from "What did the character do?" to "Why did the character do it?".

In math we learn our multiplication facts - from 1 to 12 - and how they relate to division. We conduct surveys, plot our data and analyze it. Among other things, we will also begin learning about fractions, area, perimeter and solid figures.

In third grade we also will learn....CURSIVE!! Very exciting stuff!

A guide to the summer work is attached to this letter and will also be posted on the St. Rose website. It includes a mix of reading and math, which I hope your child will enjoy. Meanwhile, I wish you a happy and safe summer with family and friends! I will see you in August!



## SUMMER WORK

1. **Summer Bridge Books** - Please see Mrs. B's suggested list of skill books in the St. Rose Newsletter
2. **Reading** - read the assigned book and at least two other books of choice. See more information below about this.
3. **Math** - practice 15 minutes a day. See suggestions below.

### SUMMER BRIDGE BOOKS

Explore the suggestions in the recent St. Rose Newsletter (Student Life section by Mrs. B). In it, she lists several recommended bridge books available to maintain skills in many areas.

### READING

The assigned book this year will be The World According to Humphrey, by Betty G. Birney. This is required reading by all students. Your child may read the book independently or, if you wish, he/she can read it together with you.

When we return to school, we'll be doing activities related to Humphrey, so your child must be very familiar with the book.

Your child must also choose at least two other books to read over the summer. I have attached a suggested list of fiction and non-fictions books that are popular and include positive themes that support what we are about at St. Rose.

## FICTION

Charlotte's Web, by E.B. White

Stone Fox, by John Reynolds Gardiner

Matt Christopher series - choose one

Sarah, Plain and Tall, by Patricia MacLachlan

A-Z Mysteries series, by Ron Roy - choose one

Jigsaw Jones series, by James Preller - choose one

Magic Treehouse series, by Mary Pope Osborne - choose one

The Mouse and the Motorcycle, by Beverly Cleary

Encyclopedia Brown series, by Donald J. Sobol - choose one

Balto and the Great Race, Elizabeth Cody Kimmel

Because of Winn-Dixie, by Kate DiCamillo

My Father's Dragon, by Ruth Stiles Gannett

The Sign of the Beaver, by Elizabeth George Speare

The Swiss Family Robinson (Classic Starts Version), by Johann David Wyss

The Penderwicks, A Summer Tale of Four Sisters, by Jeanne Birdsall

Henry and the Paper Route, by Beverly Cleary

Ramona the Pest, by Beverly Cleary

Officer Buckle and Gloria, by Peggy Rathmann

The Indian in the Cupboard, by Lynne Reid Banks

## NON-FICTION

Who Was...series

Sarah Morton's Day: A Day in the Life of a Pilgrim Girl, by Kate Waters

The Story of George Washington Carver, by Eva Moore

Balto and the Great Race, by Elizabeth Cody Kimmel

I Survived...series

Samuel Eaton's Day: A Day in the Life of a Pilgrim Boy, by Kate Waters

George Washington, A Picture Book Biography, by James Goblin

The Daring Escape of Ellen Craft, by Cathy Moore

On My Own History... series

## MATH

To build fact fluency, rising third graders should log into [freckle.com](https://www.freckle.com) each day for at least 15 minutes of adaptive fact practice. To log in:



1. In your search bar, type "[freckle.com](https://www.freckle.com)"
2. Click the blue tab on the top right: "Student Sign In"
3. Type in your child's first and last name
4. Type in the class code: **ZMEKG8** and click "Continue"

Your child will be asked to set weekly goals and will collect coins each time a goal is achieved. Coins can be spent at the "Piggy Store" to purchase items for their pet.

Students should spend time working within the "Base 10" domain, which includes all four operations. Your child can also explore the website for other math activities that interest him/her, such as geometry and measurement and data.

If your child has never used Freckle, it is a fun and engaging way for students to set realistic goals and work to achieve them! I think they will really enjoy using Freckle this summer!

[Edmentum](https://www.edmentum.com) is also available this summer for Math practice, along with Reading and Language Arts as well. Your child can log in and continue work on their learning path throughout the summer.



I hope you have a wonderful summer and I will see you in the fall! Happy reading!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Zmek