**Third Grade Rocks!**

| **Holland Hornets 3rd Grade News Page 1 Back to School Issue** |
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| Baggerly, Gough, Lopez | August, 2025 |
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| **Language Arts**  Grammar and writing will be taught by Mrs. Baggerly. Daily work in grammar and writing will count as 60% of their report card grade and tests will count as 40%. These three are now a small part of the reading STAAR test.  **SPELLING**–Each teacher will be responsible for their homeroom’s spelling curriculum. Third graders will receive a spelling list on Monday and will test on Friday. Spelling tests will count as 40% and daily work will count 60% of their report card grade. | **Mathematics**  Third grade students will have daily homework this year. While some time will be given during class to begin assignments, any work not completed will need to be finished at home. In Math, students will take a quiz each Friday that will count for a grade. It is important that students spend time at home reviewing and practicing math skills. Mrs. Lopez encourages students to use XtraMath.com or Prodigy as engaging online tools for practicing math facts. As a beginning goal, students should work toward completing 100 written addition and subtraction facts in 5 minutes or less. They should also be able to understand place value up to the thousands, identify and classify two-dimensional and three-dimensional shapes by their attributes, tell and write time to the nearest five minutes, and recognize basic coins and dollars. Daily work and homework will count as 60% of the report card grade. Tests and quizzes will count as 40%. Thank you for supporting your child’s learning at home and helping them build strong study habits. | **Reading**  Mrs. Gough is so excited to teach reading! The students will be diving into a year filled with authentic literature to enrich and enhance reading skills. The students will explore a specific reading skill each week, along with the literary vocabulary that is part of the STAAR test. On Friday the students will test on the reading objective and vocabulary for that week’s story. Mrs. Gough’s marvelous scholars will also complete many fun projects throughout the year. Most assignments should be completed during the school day. So, the only homework the students should have in the evenings is to read one half point book. Daily work in reading will count as 60% of their report card grade and tests will count as 40%. Each nine weeks their STAR test percentage will be averaged in as one test grade. Mrs. Gough can not wait to watch her students blossom into amazing readers! |
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| **Accelerated Reader**  Students in third grade are asked to read one half point book at home each night. Our goal is for each student to test on one point worth of books a day. Students are expected to come into the classroom ready to take a test each day. AR is a stand alone grade on their report card based on whether they meet their point goal and percentage goal. The reward for meeting their goals is a field trip at the end of each 9 week period. Our goal in third grade is for each student to earn at least 100 AR points during the year. Please encourage your child to read at least one book to you each night. | **Science**  Third-grade science is a time for active inquiry and investigation, where children engage in hands-on experiments and develop critical thinking skills about the world around them. In 3rd grade science we will explore Earth and Space, Life Science, and Physical Science.  In essence, 3rd grade science empowers young learners to become active participants in the scientific process, fostering their natural curiosity and equipping them with the foundational knowledge and skills to understand and interact with the world around them**.** | **Social Studies**  In third-grade social studies we focus on developing students' understanding of communities, both past and present. Students explore how communities are formed, how people live in different places, and how history connects to the present. Third grade will also emphasize the importance of individuals and heroes in shaping communities, alongside map skills, source documents, and the concept of a larger global community. Students learn about cultural diversity, the role of government and free enterprise, and how to identify ways to participate in their communities. |
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| **Class Schedules**   | 7:55-8:25 | Arrival/AR | | --- | --- | | 8:25-8:45 | Science/SS | | 8:50-10:05 | Block 1 | | 10:10-11:25 | Block 2 | | 11:25-11:55 | Lunch | | 11:55-12:20 | Recess | | 12:20-1:35 | Block 3 | | 1:35-2:05 | P.E. | | 2:05-2:35 | Electives | | 2:35-3:40 | WIN |   **Block 1, 2, and 3 will be either Reading, Math, or Language Arts for each class.** | **Communication**  **Teacher email:**  **Mrs. Baggerly**  [**abaggerly@hollandisd.org**](mailto:abaggerly@hollandisd.org)  **Mrs. Gough**  [**tgough@hollandisd.org**](mailto:tgough@hollandisd.org)  **Mrs. Lopez**  [**slopez@hollandisd.org**](mailto:slopez@hollandisd.org)  **CONFERENCE TIMES**  **1:35-2:35 M-F**  **PLEASE CALL THE OFFICE OR EMAIL YOUR CHILD'S TEACHER TO SCHEDULE A CONFERENCE** |
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| CLASS DOJO  We use Class Dojo as our online parent communicator. Please download the app! It will be used to remind or inform you of important things happening in third grade and at Holland Elementary. You will be able to contact all third grade teachers through the app. Look for a page to be coming home with instructions on how to join if you haven’t already.  GOOGLE CLASSROOM  We will be using Google Classroom occasionally during the school day so that they will be familiar with how to find assignments, complete them, and send them to their teachers. Even though your child is only using it at school, parents will be able to see a lot of what they are doing. There will also be online practice sites linked to their Google Classroom account. A student can log into their classroom account just by logging into any chrome browser with their Holland gmail account which you can find attached to your students daily folder. | **Classroom Behavior System**     |  | | --- |  | Play money used for 3rd grade classroom reward system | | --- |   This year, our third graders will be participating in a classroom economy to encourage responsible behavior and teach the basics of money management. How It Works: Students earn classroom money for positive behaviors and may be assessed small fees for not following expectations. Each classroom has a class store, where students can spend their money on small items or coupons for fun privileges. This system encourages students to budget and make smart choices, as they learn they can’t spend all their money right away if they want to afford bigger rewards later on. Behavior Tokens: Students start each week with 5 behavior tokens. Each token is worth $2.00 in classroom money at the end of the week.Tokens may be marked off for not following classroom rules or procedures.When a token is taken, there will be a short explanation written on the student’s daily homework sheet.Parents: Please initial the explanation to show you’ve seen it and are aware of the behavior.This classroom money system works alongside our regular behavior management plan and gives students a second chance to learn from small mistakes without losing all their progress. It's a fun, engaging way to build responsibility, encourage positive choices, and introduce the basics of financial literacy. Thank you for your support! |

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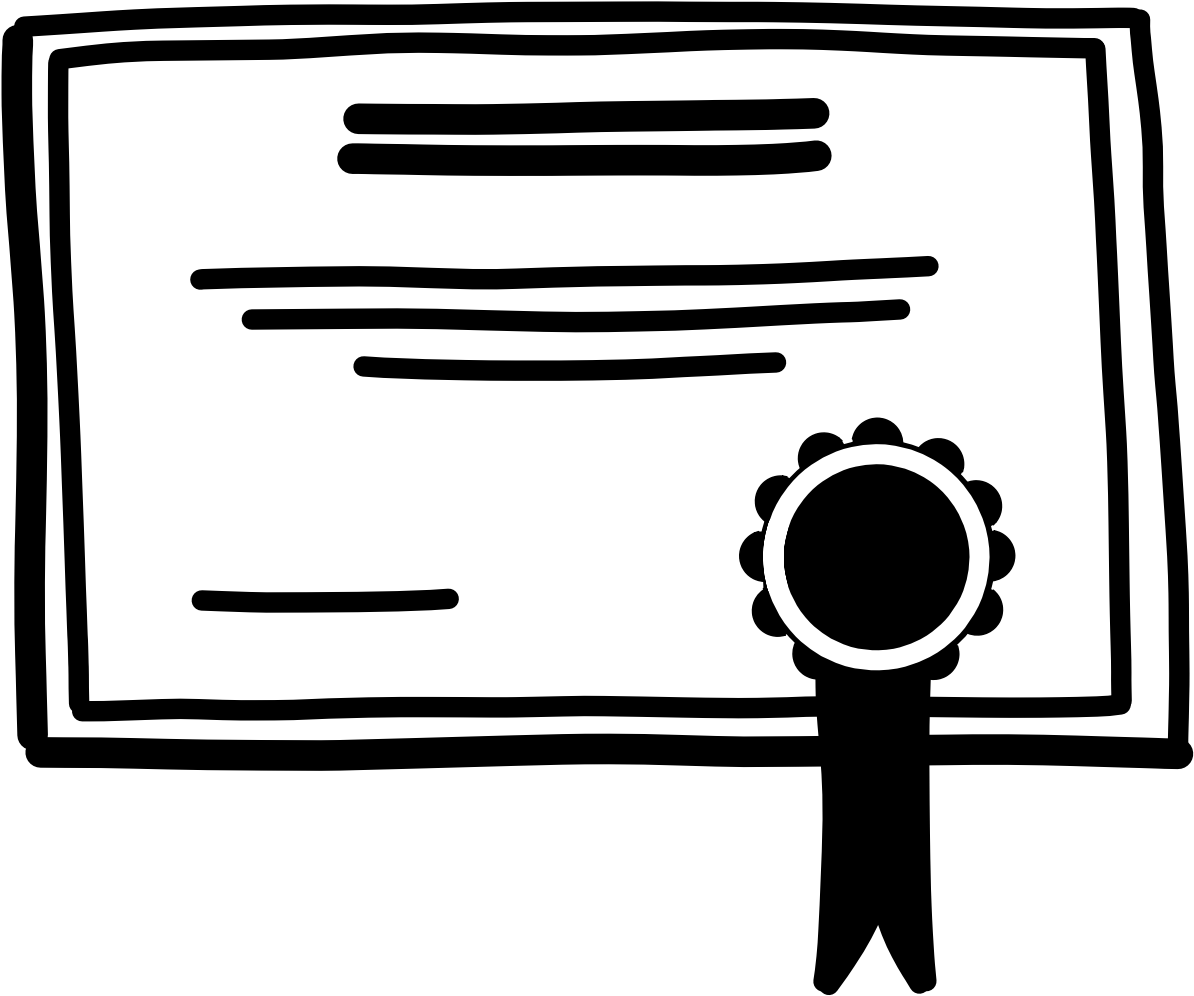
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| **Academic Expectations**  Third grade is a big year for our students as they begin preparing for the STAAR tests in two core subjects: Math and Reading Language Arts (RLA). To support their growth and independence, students will rotate between three different teachers throughout the day. This rotation helps students develop organization skills and take responsibility for their own materials and learning.  We understand this is a big transition from second grade, and we are committed to guiding your children every step of the way. You can help at home by encouraging responsibility and routine in daily schoolwork and organization. Teacher Assignments:  * Mrs. Lopez – Math * Mrs. Baggerly – Language Arts (Writing, Grammar, Spelling) * Mrs. Gough – Reading   All three teachers will also teach Science, Social Studies, and AR (Accelerated Reader) to their own homeroom classes. If you have questions about these subjects, please contact your child’s homeroom teacher directly. AR Benchmark:  * Students will take an AR benchmark test each semester to assess their reading level. * The AR benchmark will count as a test grade and will be averaged into the overall Reading score.  Core Subject Grading Breakdown:  * 60% – Tests, Quizzes, and Projects * 40% – Classwork and Participation   We’re excited to partner with you in making this a successful and enriching year for your child! | | |
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| Absences  Policy Reminder: Please refer to the Holland ISD Attendance Policy for full guidelines.  Consistent attendance is key to your child’s academic success. New skills are introduced every day, and it’s important for students to be present so they don’t fall behind.  We begin instruction immediately after the bell rings and continue learning throughout the entire day, including core subjects taught in the afternoon. Please make every effort to have your child at school on time and all day unless absolutely necessary. If Your Child is Absent:  * When students return to school, they will be given make-up work that must be completed and returned by the assigned due date. * If a child is absent for multiple days, they will be allowed additional time to complete their work. * WIN time, recess, or tutorial periods may be used to catch up on missed AR tests or in-class instruction.   We appreciate your support in helping your child stay on track by reinforcing the importance of daily attendance and completing any missed work in a timely manner. | | STAAR TEST  STAAR Testing – 3rd Grade  All Texas students in grades 3–12 are required to take the STAAR test each year. For third grade, students will be tested in two core areas:   * Reading/Language Arts (RLA) * Math   These tests are scheduled to be administered in April or May. We will send out detailed information and testing dates as we get closer to that time.  Please remember — it’s just a test, and all we ask is that each child does their personal best. Our focus is on daily learning and progress. We work hard each day to ensure your child is confident and well-prepared when the time comes.  Thank you for your continued support! |

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| **Technology Expectations**  Students will be using technology regularly in all classes throughout the year. With this privilege comes responsibility. Students are expected to follow all technology rules, and failure to do so may result in the loss of behavior tokens or loss of device privileges.  We will also be teaching digital citizenship—helping students understand how to safely and responsibly navigate the digital world. Topics will include:   * Protecting private information * Understanding how to use social media wisely * Practicing online responsibility and safety * Respecting and protecting yourself, others, and ideas online  Technology Guidelines:  * Respect all school equipment:    + No eating or drinking near devices   + Keep devices on tables   + Never intentionally damage or misuse equipment * Use only websites and apps approved by the teacher * Always ask for permission before recording videos or taking photos   By following these expectations, students will build skills they need to be responsible digital citizens and successful learners. | **Kid Account**  **&**  **Office Communication**  Our school uses the KID Account system to help manage attendance and dismissal safely and efficiently. This system is run through the front office and helps us keep track of absences and any changes in how students go home. What You Need to Know:  * Parents or guardians who pick up students should bring their KID Account card to be scanned. * Please notify the front office for the following:    + Student absences – whether planned (appointments, trips) or unexpected (illness).   + Changes in dismissal – if your child will go home a different way than usual (bus, pick-up, etc.).   Your cooperation helps us keep all students safe and accounted for. Thank you! |
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| **Water Bottles at School**  You are welcome to send your child to school with a reusable water bottle that has a twistable (spill-proof) lid. Please Note:  * Water bottles may be used during lunch, recess, and PE. * During class time, students will use the water fountains as needed. * Stanley cups or similar bottles with straws are not allowed. * Bottles should be small enough to fit securely in the side pocket of your child’s backpack without falling out.   Thank you for helping us keep our classrooms clean and our students hydrated! |  |

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| **Grade**  **Level**  **Awards**  At the end of the school year, third grade students will have the opportunity to be recognized for their hard work and achievements during our awards assembly. We encourage all students to do their best throughout the year to be eligible for one or more of the following awards: Possible Awards Include:  * Run Across Texas – presented by Coach Gersbach for physical fitness achievement * Accelerated Reader (AR) Award – for AR points earned throughout the year * Perfect Attendance – for students who are present every day, all day * UIL Recognition – for students who participate in UIL events; ribbons will be awarded   Please encourage your child to stay focused, work hard, and take pride in their efforts. We look forward to celebrating their accomplishments together! | **UIL Contest**  **Opportunities**  Third graders will have several exciting opportunities to participate in **UIL academic contests** this year! These contests are a great way for students to challenge themselves, build confidence, and represent our school. Available Events for 3rd Grade:  * **Storytelling** * **Music Memory** * **Chess** * **Ready Writing** * **Spelling**   We encourage all students to try out for **one or more events**! Tryouts will be announced in the coming weeks, so please stay tuned for more information. Important UIL Dates:  * **Tryout Dates:** To be announced soon; students will be notified at school * **UIL Meet:** Typically held during the **first week of December** * **Team Announcements:** Students will find out **before Thanksgiving break** if they made a team   **Alternates** are also an important part of each team and may be asked to compete if needed.  Thank you for encouraging your child to get involved—we look forward to a great UIL season! |
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| **Parent Teacher Organization**  This organization raises money for various things throughout Holland ISD and is always  looking for people to volunteer or support PTO events. If you are interested in joining please  check out the Holland PTO Facebook Page or <https://hollandisdpto.weebly.com> | **Holland Jr. FFA**  Holland Jr. FFA is an extracurricular activity available to students who are interested in developing leadership skills, personal growth, and exploring future career opportunities. The FFA organization makes a positive difference in students’ lives by encouraging responsibility, teamwork, and confidence.  As a member, students may have the opportunity to participate in events such as the Bell County Youth Fair, along with other activities offered throughout the year.  If you would like more information or have any questions, please contact:  Ashlee Tanguay  📧 atanguay@hollandisd.org |

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| ***Classroom Parties***  Holland Elementary enjoys celebrating special occasions with our students. We will have classroom parties throughout the year for Christmas, Valentine’s Day, and Easter. As each party approaches, we will send out an online sign-up sheet for parents who would like to contribute items. Thank you in advance for helping us make these celebrations fun and memorable for our students!    ***Birthday Parties***  We love celebrating student birthdays! You are welcome to send treats or small items with your child to celebrate their special day.  We kindly ask that you contact your child’s teacher in advance to let us know your plans so we can schedule a good time for the celebration within the school day.  Thank you for helping us make birthdays fun and memorable for our students! | **ICE CREAM**  Each grade will be able to purchase ice cream on their assigned day(s). It will cost $1.  Monday: 1st grade and 5th Grade  Wednesday: 3rd grade and 5th Grade  Tuesday: 2nd grade and 5th Grade  Thursday: 4th grade and 5th Grade  **\*\*Ice cream will NOT be sold on Fridays.**    **Movie Policy**  Throughout the school year, we may occasionally show movies in class. These movies may be tied to novels students have read, support our curriculum, or be used as a reward for positive behavior or hard work.  If a movie is being shown, we will notify you in advance with the title of the movie, its rating, and the date it will be shown.  If you do not want your child to watch a particular movie, just let us know, and we will provide an alternative activity for them during that time. | **PE- GYM**  Students are expected to bring or wear athletic shoes to participate in gym activities.  If your child needs to bring a change of shoes or clothes they can leave it in their  backpack and change before Band/PE. |
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