



Dear Room 209 Parents/Guardians,

I hope you all had a wonderful summer! My name is Mrs. Deese-Goodman and I will be your child's teacher this year. I've earned my Master's in Elementary Education and I am also a National Board Certified Teacher, which is the highest teaching certification a teacher can achieve. I love learning and I love teaching! I can not wait to meet you and your children, so we can all go on this educational journey together!

In 3rd grade, reading instruction will focus on developing word study, comprehension, and fluency. We will work on these skills through a Reading Workshop, Literature Circles, specific skill study, and our Trophies reading series. Our writing program will focus on Writer's Workshop. This exciting program will take your child's original pieces of writing through the various stages of the writing process, while enhancing their creativity. Also, please make sure your child is reading at least 30 minutes per night. There is no greater reading teacher, than practice.

Your child will continue to use the Everyday Math program. This series focuses on problem-solving, higher-order thinking skills, and creative ways to solve ordinary mathematical problems. To also prepare your child for the ISAT test, we will be working on extended responses (step-by-step explanations) in preparation for the test.

We will continue to explore science through the use of the FOSS program. This is an excellent program, which allows your child to investigate the world of science through hands-on activities, experiments, and questioning. The students and I always look forward to science time! In social studies, we will focus on geography, map skills, the history of Chicago, and some American history.

Your child will be using a homework log this year. Please make sure that you check your child's homework log every night. When your child has shown you that they've finished their homework, please sign the homework log. Homework is used as a strategy to let parents know what we are working on in school. It also allows you the time to practice the skills at home with your child. Please spend some time looking over your child's homework every night.

Finally, if there are any questions or concerns, I'm available to meet from 8:30-8:55 a.m. We use the time from 8:30-8:55 as a planning period to get ready for the day. It is necessary to have a scheduled appointment so that I can plan accordingly. I will not be able to meet without a scheduled appointment. I can also be reached at VLDeese@cps.edu. I thank you all in advance for your time and concern for your child's education! I'm looking forward to an amazing year!

Sincerely,
Mrs. Deese-Goodman 😊