Third Grade News

January 2019

Dear Third Grade Families,

As part of our IB curriculum, we have begun our fourth unit of inquiry, "How We Express Ourselves." The focus and central idea of the unit is, *"People use writing and illustrating to communicate ideas and feelings with others."*

Throughout the unit, our lines of inquiry are:

- **The craft of writing and illustrating (function)**
- **Author/illustrator's purpose (perspective)**
- **Literature appreciation (reflection)**

This IB unit encompasses a numerous amount of language arts standards. Throughout this unit, students will be inquiring into different genres of literature, various illustration techniques, and the process of writing. Students will delve into the process of connecting illustrations with written words.

Each class will attend a field trip to the *Cleveland Museum of Art* to view and discuss the form and function of art, as well as aesthetic value of art.

We hope you will consider several ways you can support and extend our learning. First and foremost, as you talk with your child after school each day, prompt discussions with questions and topics like these:

> **Questions: What aspects of literature have you learned about? What types of illustrations have you studied? What is the form and function of literature and illustrations?**

> **Topics: genres of literature (fantasy, myths, historical fiction, poems…), personal perspective, aesthetic value, story elements**

If you're interested in taking a family outing, consider going to the *Cleveland Museum of Art*. While each class will tour the museum on a field trip, it is a guided tour with a handful of pieces. The Art Museum is huge, and there are many exhibits, rooms, and pieces that we will not see. You could also go to the public library for a scavenger hunt. How many genres can you find in 15 minutes? How many books can you find without words? What story do those books (without words) tell? What are the different perspectives of the illustrations?

> **Sincerely,**

> **Third Grade Team**