



PARK MAITLAND SCHOOL

3rd Grade Year Curriculum Guide

2018-2019

Reading

Mrs. Mary Commins • mcommins@parkmaitland.org • 407-647-3038, ext.216

"The more that you read, the more things you will know.

The more that you learn, the more places you'll go."

~ Dr. Seuss, I Can Read With My Eyes Shut!

Some Background About Me:

Hello Parents! It is with great delight that I come to Park Maitland to be your child's reading teacher! My personal connection at Park Maitland dates back to my daughter's school days here and the heartwarming memories created back then. During that same time, I was able to apply my pediatric nursing expertise from my first career as an RN by substituting for "Nursie" in the Clinic which allowed me to care for the children and see firsthand what makes this school extra special. My career in teaching began in 2000 with earning my Master's Degree in Elementary Education and my teaching has spanned 1st, 3rd, and 4th grades, as well as being a K-5th Reading Resource teacher. I also feel strongly about expanding my knowledge of the "whole child", and so I became a social skills educator at Social Bridges with 1st through 4th graders. My social skills background and my years of Responsive Classroom experience will enhance and support the principles of Covey's 7 Habits, which are the foundation of this school.

I have always had a passion for reading and being able to share with children the joy of life adventures experienced vicariously through a variety of genres. With my 18 years of teaching experience, I bring many tools for teaching and learning that I draw from researched-based and published educators over the years. I look forward to bringing my reading background to develop a love of reading and strong comprehension skills in your wonderful third graders this coming year!

Textbooks: Reading Street (4th grade level) -

Throughout the year, multiple resources will be used to expose the children to many different genres of literature and authors of high interest and appeal. Skills and strategies will be learned, modeled and practiced by the children with class read-alouds or through your child's independently chosen "just right" books.

Summer Reading:

Thank you all for your hard work over the summer and constant dedication to your child's learning. I hope that all of your children had a positive experience with their summer reading! To celebrate all of their hard work, third grade readers are diving into an enjoyable unit on The Lemonade War. Through this unit the children will be introduced to characterization, perspective, making inferences, and creating a comprehensive character study project.

Reading Goals and Objectives:

My goal this year is for your child to develop and maintain a lifelong interest in and love for reading through the use of a wide variety of reading materials. As students have now become successful readers, we are transitioning from "learning to read" to "reading to learn." Throughout the year, we will be working to develop and polish your student's phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension. The students will learn to decipher multisyllabic words and word meanings, recognize synonyms, antonyms, and homonyms. Students will develop their abilities to read a story and effectively recognize main ideas, sequence of events, and the different story elements, using critical thinking strategies. As students' skills improve, we will model a sample book report during 4th quarter.

Nightly Reading: Reading Practice Folder (Green Folders)

- Outside reading is vital to your student's growth in fluency and reading comprehension. Therefore, your child will need to read to themselves, read aloud, or be read to a minimum of 20 minutes each night at least four nights a week. Please understand that it is very important for your child to engage in all three methods of reading to truly develop his/her fluency, comprehension, and love of literature.
- Starting next week, students will respond to two "Reading Responses" which are questions or prompts about what they have read. This is assigned on Mondays and due on Fridays. The two questions or prompts will be put in the front pocket of the green Reading Practice Folder (found in your child's binder) on Mondays and expected to be turned in ON Fridays (but not before Fridays as this folder stays in their binder to continue to record books on their Reading Log Sheets).
- Developing fluency is a large part of the 3rd grade reading curriculum. After we have established more of our reading routine, the Reading Practice Folders will have practice passages that will develop fluency growth that we can track. Directions for fluency practice will come later. I will let you know when this starts.

Reader's Notebook:

- The Reader's Notebook will serve as a cumulative portfolio of the children's growth as readers throughout the year. It contains skills and strategies we are learning and practicing to boost comprehension, along with self-practice and responses to our current reading.

Homework

- Below is a "snapshot" of a typical week of reading homework: (This is always subject to change.)
- Monday: Read 20 minutes and answer 2 Reading Response questions (responses due Friday)

- Tuesday: Read 20 minutes
- Wednesday: Read 20 minutes
- Thursday: Read 20 minutes
- Friday: Read 20 minutes over weekend

Assessments

- Various units in our Reading Street book will be used for assessment. These stories vary in length and difficulty of targeted skills, therefore test dates will fluctuate. The Reading Street tests will focus on targeted vocabulary, comprehension questions (multiple choice and short answer), ability to express comprehension in a written format, and targeted and review word skills.
- Alternating with Reading Street, students will also be assessed with their Reader's Notebook responses, formative assessments in guided reading conferences, quarterly projects, and fluency monitoring.

Picking a "Just Right Book" is the first step for fostering fluency and comprehension:

Have your child use the 5-Finger Rule (see the bookmark in their green Reading Practice Folder) to ensure that the vocabulary of the book is challenging enough but not so difficult that it interferes with their comprehension of the story. If students are struggling through more than 3 words on any given page, then their concentration shifts to the language of the story. Consequently, they are unable to truly comprehend the plot.

Guidelines for Developing Comprehension:

- Question your child on the vocabulary of the story. If the meanings of words are not known, the meaning of what is being read is also unclear. Please remember that just because your child can fluently read the text does not mean that they have knowledge of the words or, consequently, can understand the story.
- Ask your child to retell what he/she has just read. You can do this at the end of every chapter and then move to doing it at the end of every book.
- Ask your child comprehension questions as you read. Ask, "Why did the character do this?" "What do you think will happen now?" "Why did the author tell us this?" "What are character traits of _ ?" and other questions to check your child's understanding.

How to stay updated:

- We hope you share in the excitement of our new Seesaw online learning journal! This has been a new endeavor for us all as we learn about activities to share with students, have students take pics, draw, record and more to capture learning in our classroom--and you get to see their work almost first hand!
- Please email me directly with any academic and behavioral questions or concerns.
- "Week at a Glance" on the Park Maitland website grade level pages will serve as the primary spot for an overview of our weekly homework, as well as upcoming test dates.

Please feel free to contact me at any time, and I encourage you all to stay updated on classroom happenings via Seesaw postings. I am so thrilled to be a part of your child's life, and I look forward to a wonderful and productive year full of memories, growth and a love of reading!

Warmly,

Mary Commins

mcommins@parkmaitland.org 407-647-3038, ext. 216

E.S.W.

Ms. Heather McGuire • hmcguire@parkmaitland.org • 407-647-3038, ext. 250

Dear Wonderful Third Grade Parents and Students,

I am delighted to introduce myself as your child's 3rd grade E.S.W. teacher! Twelve years ago I moved to the Orlando area from Cincinnati, Ohio. With help from a loving and supportive family, I have enjoyed making Florida my home. I love all that Orlando has to offer. I am especially thrilled to be a part of such a wonderfully unique and loving school like Park Maitland.

During my time spent in Ohio, I attended The University of Cincinnati. I received a Master of Education in August, 2001. In the summer of 2000, I obtained a Bachelor of Science in Education. I also hold a Bachelor of Arts in Communication.

This year begins my 19th year as an elementary educator. I have taught K-6th grade. I have taught many subject areas, including Spanish. One of my favorite classes to teach has always been English and writing. I look forward to teaching the writing process this year. My goal is for your child to develop a love for creative writing! It excites me to witness young, confident authors in the making.

English: In class, we will utilize the English textbook, *Voyages in English*, from Loyola Press. At home, this same textbook may be used as a reference to study for tests as well as assist in homework assignments. Your child has been given a username and password for their online textbook. It may be found on the first page of their planner. The website to access this textbook is:

<http://digital.loyolapress.com/login>. Your child also has an English workbook that complements the text. This workbook should be kept in student's backpack and brought to class on the days when I hang a poster outside the classroom that says "Please bring your English workbook to class today". All classwork will be organized in the 1-subject spiral notebook, called interactive notebook, that will be kept in student's binder. Loose papers will be stowed in the English section of the student's binder and emptied after each unit has been completed.

Spelling: Spelling words will be written in student planners the Friday before. The word lists may also be found on the Week at a Glance page. Tests are given most Fridays that we have a five day week. Tests will be returned on Wednesdays and sent home for correction and signing (signed only if score is below an 85%). New to this year, spelling homework will be completed in composition books. Students will complete one activity from the activity page glued to the front cover of the composition book to complete on Mondays, Tuesday, and Wednesdays. For Thursday night's homework, I will ask students to take a pre-test for homework and head their spelling test paper for the next day. If they bring their pretest and pre headed paper to me on Fridays, I will add an additional 2 points to their spelling test. This composition book will be kept in the spelling section of their binders. In the event we have four or less days in a school week, there may not be a spelling test. Spelling test dates are posted on the Week at a Glance Resources page. Spelling tests consist of three grades. Students are given a spelling grade, a dictation grade, as well as a handwriting grade.

Writing: We will use the five step writing process to complete top-quality writing pieces. Each student will keep their writing pieces (from their brainstorming page to their published piece) in their writing portfolio. This portfolio will remain in the classroom to access your child's growth. You are welcome to come in and enjoy it at any time. At the end of the year, two writing pieces will be kept for a special keepsake they will receive at the end of their sixth grade year and the rest of the portfolio will go home with the students to enjoy for years to come.

Handwriting: Third grade is an exciting year for Park Maitland students. Students will be earning their cursive license and transitioning to cursive writing. This will take place after the Winter holiday. Handwriting workbooks should remain in your child's backpack as we use these frequently throughout the year.

I believe that communication between the parents and the teacher is imperative for your child's happiness as well as their success. There is no reason to communicate that is too small, too silly, or unimportant. Please feel free to contact me anytime by email, or in the event of an emergency, please text or call my cell at 407-790- 1953.

I am looking forward to getting to know you and your sweet child. We have many wonderful and academically challenging endeavors to conquer together. This year is going to be a fantastic one!

With Love,
Ms. Heather McGuire

Math

Mrs. Mindy Reed • mreed@parkmaitland.org • 407-647-3038, ext. 233

"Life is a math equation. In order to gain the most, you have to know how to convert negatives into positives." –Anonymous

Dear Parents and Families,

I would like to welcome you to 3rd grade mathematics. This will be my 12th year teaching at Park Maitland School, and I am looking forward to getting to know you and your child throughout the coming year. With almost 20 years of teaching experience, I have taught both elementary and middle school mathematics. As your child's teacher, it is my goal to help him/her become a confident learner and provide all students with an educationally challenging, yet fun, experience in mathematics. Partnering together, I am certain we can provide the support and encouragement needed for an outstanding school year.

Typical Class Schedule:

Review Homework, Bellwork, Concept of the Day, Practice New Concept, Fact Practice

Lesson: Review objectives as a class and engage each student in interactive activities.

Guided Practice: Students will work independently, or actively collaborate, to complete the daily concept worksheet.

Grading:

2 Sections:

Concepts : 20% Daily Grades, 20% Bellwork, 60% Tests

Computation: Fact Assessment Average

Homework:

- Reflex is expected to be completed three days a week until mastery of facts.
- Your child will have math homework daily.
- Allow your child to arrive at the answers independently, please check their work and help them correct any mistakes. If you helped your child, circle the problem so I can be aware of any

concepts he/she has difficulty mastering.

- Please initial in the upper right corner of your child's homework paper after you have checked it.
- Keep your child's homework papers in a three ring binder as they will be using them to study for tests.
- Please check the homework website for updates throughout the week.

Enrichment:

- Enrichment activities will be provided to extend the students' thinking to a higher level.

Communication:

Communication between a parent, a student, and the teacher is one of the most important tools that enable children to be successful. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions you may have. I am excited to begin the third grade journey with your child! mreed@parkmaitland.org

Major Topics Covered This Year:

Computation

- Adding three two-digit numbers and adding two three-digit numbers using mental computation
- Multiplication (0,1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9, and 10)
- Division (0,1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9, and 10)
- Dividing a two-digit, three-digit, and four-digit number by a one-digit number

Measurement

- Measuring line segments using inches, half inches, centimeters, and centimeters with millimeters

Geometry

- Area, Perimeter, and Volume
- Parallel and Perpendicular lines and line segments
- Faces, Edges, and Vertices
- Lines, Line Segments, Endpoints, Rays, and Angles
- Right, Acute, and Obtuse Angles

Money

- Multiplying and dividing money amounts
- Recording transactions in a checkbook register
- Counts coins and bills
- Explores making change with the fewest coins and bills
- Adds money using decimal point and dollar sign
- Compares money amounts

Time

- Tells time to the nearest five minutes
- Explores time to the nearest minute
- Reviews time to the half hour and quarter hour
- Explores elapsed time

Fractions

- Writing equivalent fractions using halves, fourths, eighths, and sixteenths

- Orders and compares fractions recognizing greater/less and equal
- Adds and subtracts fractions with like denominators
- Adds and subtracts fractions with unlike denominators
- Simplifies fractions

Problem-solving strategies

Place Value Understanding

Decimals

Probability

Statistics

Science & Social Studies

Ms. Cindy Dawson • cdawson@parkmaitland.org • 407-647-3038 ext. 249

Welcome to the magic of science and social studies at Park Maitland School! I am Cindy Dawson (Ms. D), and it has been my honor to have been a teacher of third grade at this wonderful school for eighteen years, after seven years of prior teaching experience. As a graduate of the University of Oregon, I'm a huge Ducks fan. I attended Rollins College for my Masters in Education and Teaching, and I have recently completed coursework in United States history at Oxford University, England this past summer. My passions include Shakespeare, chess, ukulele, horses, swimming, sailing, and snow skiing. I grew up in Carmel, California, but Winter Park is now my home. Every year we experience amazing magic as a class together; often this magic includes animal rescue, being involved in heartfelt outreach projects, and spreading kindness such as the current Kindness Rocks project that will result in a Kindness Rock garden in the front of the school honoring our 50th anniversary. I just know that this year is going to be spectacular! Below is a brief overview of some interesting aspects of the coming third grade year in both subject areas.

Science

Text: HSP Science, Harcourt Brace
Scholastic SuperScience Magazine

- Maps and Globes
- Landforms
- Animal Kingdom
- Animal Habitats
- Biodiversity
- Plant Kingdom
- How things Work
- Gravity, Force, Motion

Simple Machines

Inventors

The Ocean

Rocks and Minerals

Health and Wellness

Social Studies

Texts: Our Communities, Harcourt Brace
Sea to Shining Sea, Houghton Mifflin
Time for Kids Magazine

- Current Events
- Diverse Cultures
- Native American Studies
- (Pacific Northwest, The Great Plains, The Southwest)
- Westward Expansion
- Pioneers
- Citizenship
- Our Community
- Character Development
- American Presidents
- Sports

It is my honor to be a part of your child's life this school year. Your participation and conversation with your child/children will be vital to their deeper understanding of the subject matter, as there will be very little homework given. However, during the Science Expo process (January-February), expectations for completion of the project at home will require parental guidance and a bit of help on your part where the model-making is concerned. In addition, our legendary Native American Festival in November will involve many hands, and will be an amazing adventure as we pull it all together with group planning that will involve every one of your families in the process. Incredible! To say that I am wildly excited for the year ahead would be putting it mildly! Your child's third grade year is sure to be an EPIC and a treasured experience for all!

With Heartfelt appreciation,
Cynthia Dawson (Ms. D)

Enrichment

Spanish

[Ms. Jacqueline Mayo • jmayo@parkmaitland.org](mailto:jmayo@parkmaitland.org) • 407-647-3038, ext. 251

Welcome to a wonderful year of Spanish in our beautiful classroom fully equipped with Smart Board technology, and other exciting learning enhancements!

Course overview:

¡Bienvenidos a la clase de Español! We are going to have a lot of fun this year learning the Spanish language and culture. Learning a second language is very helpful in developing brain capacity and communication skills. My main goal for Spanish class is to develop in every child the love of learning a second language and appreciation for different cultures. This year third grade will learn new vocabulary through games, songs, and interactive activities, as well as with writing projects. We are also incorporating a program called Rockalingua. Rockalingua is an online resource that contains videos, songs, and games to teach Spanish. We will also learn about some of the 21 countries whose Spanish is their official language, as well as important figures and traditions within the Spanish culture. Third grade will receive Spanish instruction twice a week; one time in the Spanish classroom and the second during Art class. We kindly referred to this class as SPART (Spanish + Art).

Art

Mrs. Joanie Forbes . jforbes@parkmaitland.org . (407) 647-3038 ext. 272

Welcome to art in the third grade! Our 3rd graders will make the big move to enjoy art upstairs this year. My name is Mrs. Joanie Forbes and I am so excited to have the opportunity to work with each of your wonderful children in art. I have been working with children and art for over 30 years and am very passionate about the process of inspiring young artist. This will be my 2nd year here at Park Maitland. My mission in teaching your children is to promote imagination, creativity and the confidence to express themselves through the arts.

We began our year with our Young Masters pictures. Once we complete this, we will begin our Winter Park Chamber of Commerce holiday card competition.

We will be meeting twice a week, one day of which will be Spart! This is combining Spanish and art together to help increase our students speaking fluency. Mrs. Mayo will interpret my directions into Spanish allowing the children to be immersed in the Spanish language and able to apply their speaking skills in the art room. One of the exciting events that children get to participate in third grade is a puppet show. They will actually create their own amazing puppet character in art. In their drama class they will learn how to speak their lines and give action to their puppets. In their E.S.W. class they will actually write their own stories for the play. In Spanish they will learn their parts in Spanish, so Mrs. Mayo and I have decided to call that project, Spartama! This will be collaborating with writing, drama, Spanish and art!

This year we will focus on Spanish speaking artists. We will take a look at their culture and how it affects their styles. Then we will experience their different styles through our projects. I have many surprises for our third graders this year in art. One example will be learning about a very well known artist by the name of Diego Rivera. The boys and girls will actually learn how to do a fresco painting that when they are completed, will look like a part of one of Diegos murals taken off an old wall in Mexico. I have many fun adventures planned for your artists to enjoy on their journey in art this year.

I am also so excited to share that there have been many learning enhancements added to our campus this year, one of which is in the art room. We now have an Apple T.V. which means we will be able to add technology in the art classes!

In April, (exact date to be determined) we will celebrate all of our inspired artist in our annual Art Faire. Details to come later but I can promise you will not want to miss this!

Spart

Mrs. Joanie Forbes jforbes@parkmaitland.org (407) 647-3038 ext. 272

Mrs. Jackie Mayo jmayo@parkmaitland.org (407) 647-3038 ext. 252

This class was actually named by our students last year! SPART is a combination of Spanish and Art. The students come to art twice a week, and Mrs. Mayo join the class one day each week. SPART's main purpose is to teach students practical Spanish through culture, art and a lot of fun! We strongly believe this will increase the students speaking fluency. The room is labeled both in English and Spanish so that students will get used to print in both languages. Directions and topics are given in both languages, which is another way we reinforce the learning process. SPART students will be

learning and making art projects using as inspiration Pablo Picasso (Spain), Diego Rivera (Mexico), Frida Kahlo (Mexico), Joan Miró (Spain) and Amate Bark paintings (Mayan culture).

Our goal is to immerse students in both languages, teach them about other Spanish countries and cultures and make SPART a class they will enjoy throughout the whole year.

Music

Mr. [Stephen Nelson](mailto:snelson@parkmaitland.org) • snelson@parkmaitland.org • 407-647-3038, ext. 263

It's going to be an exciting year for the third graders. We will start our year singing some great patriotic songs and super fun songs, studying music theory in preparation of learning to play the recorder, as well as learning some folk dances that are incredibly fun. During this time, we will also prepare for the Orlando Philharmonic Orchestra concert we will attend by listening and studying the pieces they will perform. Following that we will have the pleasure of working on the songs and choreography for their play. After this we will begin our recorder study. I'm looking forward to third grade music! Give music your very best!

Physical Education

Mr. [Mike Larrimore](mailto:mlarrimore@parkmaitland.org) • mlarrimore@parkmaitland.org • 407-647-3038, ext. 235

Ms. [Samantha Miller](mailto:smiller@parkmaitland.org) • smiller@parkmaitland.org • 407-647-3038, ext. 255

Ms. [Darcy Rios](mailto:drios@parkmaitland.org) • drios@parkmaitland.org • 407-647-3038, ext. 208

Physical Education is an important part of the overall education process at Park Maitland School. The primary goal of physical education class is to enhance the development of psychomotor, cognitive, and affective skills that will enable our students to participate in and enjoy physical activities for the rest of their lives. Students will enjoy a variety of activities throughout the year. Some of their favorites include 4 square, tetherball, soccer, and kickball.

Computer

Ms. [Renee Watts](mailto:rwatts@parkmaitland.org) • rwatts@parkmaitland.org • 407-647-3038, ext. 206

This is such a wonderful year in computer lab! The students will take their technology skills to a whole new level. Proper keyboarding skills are encouraged throughout the year with emphasis on the home row and learning the placement of the keys on a QWERTY keyboard. The majority of the year will focus on exploring the Google Apps Suite and building technology confidence. They will learn the basics of maneuvering through the Google platform and how to create, format, and save documents. They will work on collaborative computer projects with their academic classes in the lab. The students will also enjoy exploring educational software such as Math Blaster 9-12, Typing Agent, Paint (kid favorite!) and online kid-friendly websites. It is an exciting year for 3rd graders! Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Drama

Mr. [Josh Eleazer](mailto:jeleazer@parkmaitland.org) • jeleazer@parkmaitland.org • 407-647-3038, ext. 264
Ms. [Brandy Eleazer](mailto:beleazer@parkmaitland.org) • beleazer@parkmaitland.org • 407-647-3038, ext. 262

Welcome to upper level drama! We have an exciting year ahead of us. We will begin by focusing on our five senses, how we use them to take in information and how we can use that information to recreate different worlds on stage. Also, we will be exploring the amazing world of puppetry and

performing self-written scripts in our very own puppet theatre for an audience made up of younger students. In addition, we will be developing our vocal and projection skills, learning theatre terms and history, and of course will have our grade level production. So, jump on board. It's going to be a great year. If you need to reach Mr. or Mrs. Eleazer, you may email us at beleazer@parkmaitland.org or call 407-647-3038 ext. 262.

Swimming

Mr. Kevin Meisel • kmeisel@parkmaitland.org, 407-647-3038, ext. 231 Ms. April McAtee • amcatee@parkmaitland.org, 407-647-3038, ext. 239

The goals for swimming in Grade 3 are to develop a good attitude and increased awareness of safe practices around water, to challenge each child according to his or her individual abilities in both improved stroke technique and swimming endurance, and to create greater appreciation and enjoyment of aquatic sports and leisure water activities. Equal attention is given to each of the four competitive strokes to allow every student the chance to shine in their favorite while developing balance in all to complete the Individual Medley. The Park Maitland School swimming program has developed leaders in the pool and at school since 1968. If you have any questions, please contact us!

Media Center

Ms. Christine Talbert • ctalbert@parkmaitland.org, 407-647-3038, ext. 253

The Park Maitland library is here to help every student develop a love of reading, become skilled at using the ideas and information found in a library, and explore the world through print and electronic media. Grade three will visit the library once a week. During their library class, they may check out two books, enjoy monthly themes, and learn about a variety of authors. I am always available and can easily be contacted by email. Below are library days for 3rd grade:

3 Purple	Monday
3 Red	Tuesday
3 Orange	Tuesday
3 Green	Tuesday
3 Blue	Thursday
3 Yellow	Friday

Read to Lead, our reading incentive program, will continue this year, and can be found on my Google Sites page. Please consider having your child participate in the Club Read to Lead program. It is my hope that every student discovers the joy and benefits of reading for pleasure! The direct link for Read to Lead is: <https://sites.google.com/parkmaitland.org/ctalbert>

Goals of the Park Maitland Media Center:

- To maintain a current collection of resources addressing curriculum and recreational reading needs of our student population
- To help instill a love of reading in each student
- To help students become effective users of information
- To support the curriculum through resources and collaboration

Writing Lab

Ms. Christine Talbert • ctalbert@parkmaitland.org, 407-647-3038, ext. 253

Writing Lab is an enrichment class that provides opportunities for additional creative composition. In

Writing Lab, students will utilize the writing process with many different types of writing. Opportunities for creative writing may include: poetry, interviews, designing, sharing and using graphic organizers, puppet script writing and storytelling. If you have any questions, please contact me by email.

Design Thinking

Mr. Andres Joubert • ajoubert@parkmaitland.org • 407-647-3038 ext. 228

Design Thinking is a place for our Park Maitland makers and innovators to think outside of the box and tinker while solving “real world” problems. We put the 4C’s (communication, collaboration, critical and creative thinking) into action as we prepare our students for 21st century learning.

Our new Maker Space is the perfect place to participate in STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, the Arts, and Mathematics) activities and challenges. The children collaborate with their classmates and teachers while participating in project based, hands-on learning. They will learn about the Engineering Design Process (Ask, Imagine, Plan, Create, Improve, and Communicate) while repurposing materials, making models, and creating. It’s amazing to see how innovative our students can be!

While we always strive to celebrate all of our design successes, we will also place great value in learning about why things “failed.” This concept is particularly important so that the children are able to see the infinite possibilities that may exist while solving problems. When children learn to adjust their plans, revise ideas, and think of other options, they gain perseverance, confidence, and grit. Ultimately, the journey is as important as the destination!

Volunteering

This year, parents will have the opportunity to sign up for volunteer opportunities by visiting www.signupgenius.com/findasignup. The sign-ups will not be “live” or available to you until after each grade level Parent Night event.

Below are the step-by-step directions of how to access the sign up opportunities. Each grade level will have their own sign ups, and there are a few school wide opportunities as well.

For your grade level opportunities:

- Go to www.signupgenius.com/findasignup
- Go to Search for a Sign-up
- Enter the email address hmcguire@parkmaitland.org
- Check I’m not a robot
- Click on the event in which you would like to help, and add your name

For our school wide events:

- Go to www.signupgenius.com/findasignup
- Go to Search a Sign-up
- Enter email address: kwilliams@parkmaitland.org
- Check I’m not a robot
- Click on the event in which you would like to help, and add your name

On the site for each opportunity, you will find the directions you need. Some are unlimited and some

are specific. Please keep in mind when volunteering that all parents within your child's class need the chance to participate. We ask that you are flexible and understanding and please "spread the wealth" allowing everyone to have a spot.

We hope you find this fast and convenient. Should you have any difficulties or have any questions, please contact Kitty Williams at kwilliams@parkmaitland.org by phone at 407-647-3038 ext 104.