
Back to School Night

2023-24

Mrs. Downey, Mrs. Dewar,
and Mrs. Peters

About Mrs. Peters:

Welcome to my classroom! This year is going to be awesome! This is my ninth year at West Valley. I have taught 2nd - 4th grades.

Just a little about me. I was born on the tiny island of Guam, but grew up in the Bay Area in Santa Clara. I currently live in Mountain View with my family. I have two children, my oldest is a Senior and my youngest is a freshman at nearby Mountain View HS.

As a teacher, it is my hope to help support my students succeed academically, but also to encourage them to be the best people they can be. Kindness is the key ingredient that helps all children grow and feel good.



Behavior and Community

Our school norms are referred to as “The Four Be’s”

- Be Respectful
- Be Responsible
- Be Safe
- Be Courageous

Throughout our school year we will work on The Four Be’s in our daily lessons. There will be weekly lessons around social emotional learning, building community, and how to BE our best in school.

We will celebrate each student’s birthday during our Morning Meetings. We will sing the birthday song, if you’re child is comfortable with it.

Daily Schedule

- Morning Meetings
- Language Arts Block (Reader's and Writer's Workshop)
- Math Block
- Science/Social Studies Block
- Daily Homework: Read 30 mins., 10 mins. math facts,
Recommended: Typing Club

Special Classes

- Art lessons with Ms. Sanchez
- Music lessons with Mr. Watkins
- Library lessons with Ms. Gudan
- C-Lab lessons with Ms. Chew
- Recess 101 with Coach Liz

Curriculum Highlights

Language Arts – Lucy Calkins Units of Study Writer’s and Reader’s Workshop

- We start the year with a focus on our lives as readers and writing personal narratives. Throughout the beginning units, students will develop their stamina in both reading and writing, as well as developing their skills and broadening their interests. In addition, the students will write opinion and informational pieces and develop reading skills across a variety of genres.

Math

- Math starts with some “getting to know you” graphing and then on to number sense. From there we move on to multiplication and division concepts, measurement, area and perimeter, fractions, and geometry.

Social Studies

- Geography: Map Skills, Local area, and Native Americans’ use of the land, History: settlers, diversity, and culture, Economics: buying and selling, Civics: local, State, and Federal, citizenship, and making a difference in the world.

Science

- Life Cycle and Traits, Motion and Forces, Weather and Climate.

Curriculum Highlights (continued)

Speeches and Book Reports

- Students will be assigned book reports/speech each grading period. These projects are done with support from home. Families will work with students to self-reflect afterwards.

Homework

- Students should read 30 minutes daily. We recommend daily math facts practice for at least 10 minutes. Students will do book reports and speeches as their homework. Family support will be needed for these presentations. In some cases, unfinished work may need to be sent home as homework. This may also require parental support.

Social Emotional Learning

- Students will be taught social emotional learning lessons, and SEL practices will be woven throughout the day.

Assessments and Communication

Assessments

- CUSD's Early Assessment Tools will be completed with every student, several times a year. Third grade students will complete pre- and post- reading & writing assessments for each unit, a reading level assessment using the Literably app, as well as a math assessment using the iReady diagnostic. The purpose of these assessments is to get a clear picture of where each student is in his or her learning. iREADY for Reading and Math will be given each trimester.

Class Newsletter

- Teachers will provide updates on class activities and events on a regular basis via email and/or on the class website.

You can reach us via email, we will typically respond within 24 hours:

peters_irene@cusdk8.org

Field Trips

These are the proposed field trips and time frames:

- MV Center for Performing Arts Play
- Sunnyvale Heritage Park Museum and/or
- McClellan Ranch Creek Study

In house-

- Ohlone Native Californians,
- Force and Motion Palo Alto Junior Museum, and/or
- Water Cycle

Thank you for everyone who has already made your generous class donations. We will do as much as possible depending on whether or not we have sufficient funds.

Parent Volunteers

Volunteer opportunities (requires TB Testing and Fingerprinting):

- Project Cornerstone
- Room Parent Volunteers
- Field Trip Chaperones
- Art Helper
- Flag Maker (flag examples will be on display from 6:25-7:25 pm at the primary snack tables)

Math Links

These are suggested places to practice math facts.

A Plus Math www.varsitytutors.com/aplusmath

Math Playground www.mathplayground.com/

Cool Math 4 Kids www.coolmath4kids.com/

Math Game Time

www.mathgametime.com/blog/2017/02/9-games-to-teach-multiplication-in-third-grade/

That's A Fact (Practice Math Facts) www.hbschool.com/activity/thats_a_fact/english_K_3.html

Grade 3 Math Playground www.mathplayground.com/grade_3_games.html

Khan Academy www.khanacademy.org/math/cc-2nd-grade-math

Splash Math www.splashmath.com/math-games-for-3rd-graders