

Back to School Night
Mrs. Nowell & Miss
Macey/Miss Lafond/Mrs.
Mitchell

September 22, 2011

Grade 3

Room 13, 14, and 17





Clifford M. Granger Elementary School
31 South Westfield Street
Feeding Hills, MA 01030

Mrs. Cheryl Salomao, Principal
Mrs. Jennifer Roberts, Administrative
Assistant

WELCOME



Mission Statement

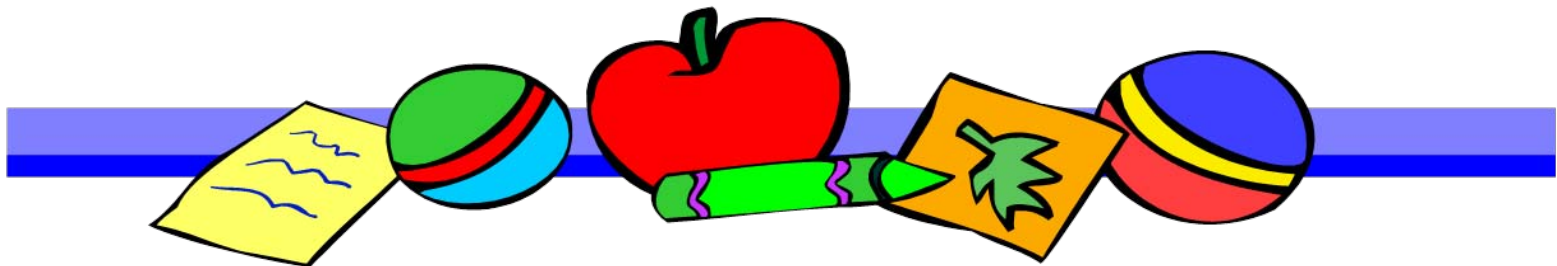
At the Clifford M. Granger School,
our mission is to foster
a lifetime love of learning within a safe,
positive and engaging environment -
while empowering all students to
realize their full potential for social
responsibility,
a healthy sense of self,
and academic excellence through a
curriculum reflective of our ever
changing world.

School Website

- www.agawampublicschools.org
- Go to *Granger School*
- To access Mrs. Mitchell's or Mrs. Nowell's webpage, go to *Staff Directory*. This includes our class schedule, wish list, and general expectations. Miss Lafond's webpage is currently under construction.
- To access Accelerated Reader list, go to *Library*, then go to *ERNI*. Scroll down to Granger School/Accelerated Reader.

~Contact Information~

- Mrs. Sharon Mitchell SMitchell@agawamteachers.org
- Mrs. Susan Nowell SNowell@agawamteachers.org
- Miss Ashely Macey AMacey@agawamteachers.org
- Miss Tara Lafond TLafond@agawamteachers.org
- 413-821-0580 (school office ~ please leave a message)
- Notes in student agendas
- We will make every effort to get back to you on that day.










~Daily Schedule~

- 8:20-8:55 Morning Work
- 8:55 - 9:25 RTI
- 9:25-10:25 Math
- 10:25-10:40 Recess
- 10:45-11:15 Special
- 11:15-11:50 Second Step, Science, Social Studies, Word Study
- 11:50 - 12:35 Lunch/Recess
- 12:35 - 2:35 ELA Block
- 2:40-2:45 Agendas
- 2:50 Dismissal










~Weekly Specials Rm. 13~

- Monday ~ Physical Education  and Library 
- Tuesday ~ Physical Education 
- Wednesday ~ Science  and Computers 
- Thursday ~ Art 
- Friday ~ Music 








*Please wear sneakers on PE days

~Weekly Specials Rm. 14~

- Monday ~ Art 
- Tuesday ~ Music  and Library 
- Wednesday ~ Physical Education 
- Thursday ~ Science 
- Friday ~ Physical Education  and Computers 

*Please wear sneakers on PE days

~Weekly Specials Rm. 17~

- Monday ~ Science  and Library 
- Tuesday ~ Physical Education 
- Wednesday ~ Music 
- Thursday ~ Physical Education 
- Friday ~ Art  and Computers 

*Please wear sneakers on PE days

MATH

- Math books are published by Investigations/Scott Foresman.
- Room 14 is piloting a new math program, Envisions, which is published by Pearson Scott Foresman.
- Students have textbooks, manipulatives, and worksheets from outside resources for review and support.
- Goals include computation, graphing, place value, number sense, geometry, fractions, problem solving, and measurement.
- Students will need to show concept understanding both verbally and in writing.

English Language Arts (ELA)

- Guided Reading (small group, based on reading level)
- Independent Reading
- Reading for fluency and meaning
- Summarizing and retelling
- Read Aloud (whole group)
- DEAR (Drop Everything And Read)
- Language
- Word Study (spelling)
- Vocabulary
- Dictionary skills
- Grammar
- Word Connections
- Guided Writing
- Independent Writing
- Process Writing (using graphic organizers, rough draft, self editing, peer editing, teacher editing, final draft, publishing)
- Writing for an audience
- Paragraph Writing (topic sentence, at least 3 vivid details, and a concluding sentence)
- Topic development
- Mechanics (spelling, punctuation, grammar)

Science

- We use the Discovery Works texts as well as other hands on activities and projects.
- Divided into units, including earth, life, and physical science.
- Students are expected to do group work and discovery activities.
- Student goals include making predictions, recording data, and applying concepts.
- Science teacher works with students on the technology/engineering component of the curriculum.

Social Studies

- We use the HBJ Communications texts as well as Massachusetts and Agawam studies.
- Divided into units, including geography, history, civics and government, and economics
- Student goals include map skills and states (name, location, and abbreviation).
- Famous person project assignment towards the end of the year.

Support Staff

- Art ~ Ms. Bonavita
- Music ~ Mrs. O'Keefe
- Physical Education ~ Mr. Rist
- Science ~ Mrs. Rumprik
- Title 1 Math ~ Mrs. McKeever and Miss Rheaume
- Reading ~ Mrs. Belisle
- Special Education Staff ~ Mrs. Alvord, Mrs. Einzig, Mrs. Sharp, Ms. Fidrych, Mrs. Orsatti, and Physical Therapists
- School Counselor ~ Ms. Balboni
- School Nurse ~ Mrs. Lynch
- Library ~ Mrs. Matys and Mrs. Green
- Paraprofessionals ~ Mrs. Prout (Rm. 14) , Mrs. Lamarre, Mrs. Sullivan, Miss Woods, Mrs. Meunier, and Mrs. Kurowski (Rms. 14 & 17)
- School Custodian ~ Mr. Carrier

~Homework and Agendas~

- Homework is given every night.
- Written in student agenda.
- Agendas need to be signed by a parent/adult *every night*.
- It is the students' responsibility to ask an adult to sign agendas.



~Grading System~

- Grades are based on daily work, class participation, tests/quizzes, homework, and teacher observation.
- Grades will be based on the letter/numbers listed on the front of report cards.
- Progress notes will be sent home at the half-term mark.
- Report cards will be sent home in December, March, and on the last day of school.

Response to Intervention

Introduction

Changes in federal and state laws have directed schools to focus more on helping all children by addressing their learning needs earlier within the general education setting.

These new laws emphasize the importance of providing high quality, research based instruction and interventions, and hold schools accountable for the adequate yearly progress of all students.

This new process of providing interventions to students who are in need of academic is called Response to Intervention (RtI).

What is RtI?

RtI is a process designed to help schools match student needs to research based interventions for every child. Student progress is monitored on a frequent basis. The information gained from the RtI process is used by school personnel to make decisions regarding the student's educational program.

What Are the Benefits of RtI?

Perhaps the greatest benefit of an RtI approach is that it allows for early support within the general education setting. Through school-wide screening, progress monitoring, and teacher input every student is provided an intervention to address individual learning needs.

Response to Intervention is a framework that:

- Provides high-quality, research-based instruction and intervention based on individual student need
- Uses assessment data to monitor student progress frequently in order to make decisions about how and what to teach children who are not making sufficient progress academically, socially, emotionally or behaviorally

The key to RtI is simple:

If we provide quality instruction, with ALL of our personnel supporting ALL children, and do this early, we will meet our goal of ALL students reading at grade level upon entering third grade.

Changes in federal and state laws (including the No Child Left Behind Act and the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act) have directed schools to focus more on helping all children learn by addressing individual needs earlier within the general education setting. These laws are designed to help schools focus on high quality interventions using data for educational decisions, including the response to intervention for each student and special education eligibility for students suspected of having learning disabilities.

RtI creates an educational system that focuses on success for all learners. Teachers also accelerate students who are ready to advance their knowledge.



What is the Role of the Parent?

Parents should always participate in problem-solving discussions with their child's teacher about the child's specific strengths and areas of need.

Parents should also ask when the school will update them on the results of the intervention.

When possible, parents should make suggestions about strategies and interventions based on what they know works at home.

Finally, parents should praise their children for any improvement in the area of concern.

RtI is a framework which helps schools organize effective instruction for the benefit of all children. It encourages schools to provide early intervention services to help prevent academic, social-emotional, or behavioral difficulties. Most importantly, it is a positive, proactive approach to educating each and every child at Granger School.



Clifford M. Granger

31 South Westfield Street
Feeding Hills, MA 01030

Phone: 413.821.0580

Absentees

- I am more than happy to make arrangements to provide make-up work for absentees due to illness.
- If students are absent due to vacation, students will be responsible for completing make-up work at home after returning to school.
- *Note: Some make-up work must be done in school.*

Behavior Expectations

- We model and expect respectful behavior from all students.
- All students are expected to follow all rules outlined in the Student Handbook.
- Disrespectful behavior may result in a minor or a major report and parents will be notified.
- Students who need reminders to stay on task will receive warnings. After 3 warnings, a minor incident form will be sent home.

PBIS

All students are asked to follow the rules outlined in the Agawam Public Schools Code of Conduct Handbook. We also have our own PBIS (Positive Behavioral Intervention and Support) approach to discipline at Granger School. Respect is the foundation of our PBIS discipline and each and every student knows our motto:

**At Granger School:
We Respect Ourselves
Respect Others
Respect Learning
and Respect the Environment**



WISH LIST

The following is a list of items that we are always in need of:

- Black fine tip and ultra fine Sharpies
- Colored fine tip and ultra fine Sharpies
- Dry erase markers
- Dry erase erasers or wipe off sheets
- Paper towels
- Tissues
- Hand sanitizer
- Clorox (or any brand) anti-bacterial wipes
- Ziploc bags (sandwich, snack, or gallon size)

- If you ever come across any of these items on sale and you would like to donate them to our classroom, it would be greatly appreciated.