



Dear Parents:

My name is Mrs. Cloud and I've taught in the Ferguson-Florissant School District for 28 years. Four of those years were as a Third Grade Classroom Teacher, 22 years were at Cross Keys Middle School teaching 7th and 8th grade Probe, and for the last 2 years, teaching 3rd grade Probe.

At the 3rd Grade level, we are working on our writing and math skills each and every time we meet. In addition, we are focusing on a PBL. PBL is Problem Based Learning. Problem Based Learning is a teaching method that allows students gain knowledge and skills by working for an extended period of time to investigate and respond to an authentic, engaging and complex question, problem, or challenge. Our driving question this year is: **As a Representative of the Office of Tourism, how can you convince others to visit your country?** Students will be investigating and preparing a presentation for you. Please plan to join us this spring for the Showcase. Notification of dates will be emailed to you prior to the Showcase dates.

Our typical day begins with students watching CNN10, a 10 minute news update on the world's current events followed by a discussion of the topics. The next step is to write a paragraph in their Weekly Writing Workshop books. The students are given a writing prompt which will ask them to include silly situations in a story or will ask for their opinions including explanations. Each week we will do some sort of math activity whether it is Prodigy Math on the computers, board work, or mental math. We will even do M&M Math!! Time for our PBL will occur weekly as well.

Again, I am thrilled to be working with your child. If you ever need to reach me, **EMAIL** is the best way as I am with students or in meetings most of the work day or you can call Mr. Brown, our secretary, at 314-595-3910. Please feel free to reach out to me and I will contact you asap.

Susan Cloud - 3rd Grade Probe Teacher

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