

2014-2015 Third Grade G&T School Supply List

Dear Families,

We look forward to an amazing year with your child next year! We hope this school supply list will help us begin the new school year with a running start. While we realize that it isn't always possible to have the supplies ready for the first day of school, it would be great if your child can bring in all supplies by Monday, September 8. If you have any questions about the supply list or about anything else, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

Regards,
Ms. Gregory & Mrs. Zimmerman

Student Supplies:

Marble Composition Notebooks, black and white, (4)
1 one-subject spiral notebook - green cover
1 one-subject spiral notebook - red/orange/pink cover
#2 Pencils (five packages - pre-sharpened would be a treat)
Small Hand-held Pencil Sharpeners (3; these dull and often break!)
Post-it Notes
4 Vinyl ("Poly") two-pocket folders, red, blue, green, any color
1 package of loose-leaf paper (standard/wide-ruled) (first name A-M) OR
1 package colored pencils (first name N-Z)
Markers (first name A-M) OR crayons (first name N-Z)
Glue Sticks, 3-4 (permanent glue, if possible)
Scissors (first name A-L) OR Elmer's Glue (first name N-Z)



Classroom Donations (optional but so appreciated!):

Tissues

Paper Towels

Liquid Antibacterial Hand Soap

Baby Wipes / Disinfecting Wipes

Permanent markers (Sharpies)

Quart or Gallon size Ziploc bags

*** Extra Technology Items:**

Either a laptop/tablet (*see attached letter about B.Y.O.D. - "Bring Your Own Device"*)

To facilitate audio work on the computers/laptops, it would be great if each student had his/her own pair of **headphones**. These should be labeled and will be stored in a Ziploc bag in his/her cubby. Personal headphones are a good idea for preventative sanitary measures. The headphones can be of any variety, but please only send in inexpensive headphones.

Thank you so much for your help and support!

Third Grade G&T Bring Your Own Device (B.Y.O.D.) Program

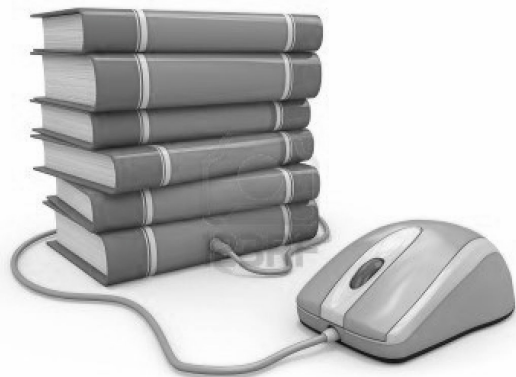
Dear Third Grade G&T Families,

As technology continues to change the world in which we live, technology has become an essential part of education here at Chelsea Prep. Technology use in our classrooms focuses on developing critical research skills, opportunities for communication, individual academic enrichment, and creative, learning-centered projects. Our focus is always on having the students create rather than consume content, all within a safe, supervised environment.

In past years, while we have striven to provide appropriate access to computers as an essential educational tool, technology use in the classroom has been less than seamless due to hardware limitations. With our school growing, we simply do not have access to enough computers to allow the students seamless access. The students are sometimes frustrated by our technological limitations, especially since the digital natives in our classrooms are often accustomed to having technology at their fingertips, and the school devices are either unavailable or barely work.

In an effort to nurture our digital learners and empower them to take control of their own learning, last year we began a B.Y.O.D. program to allow students to use personal laptops or tablets while at school. It was a great success, and the students were able to accomplish so much, including making documentaries, blogging, and computer programming. All of the devices were used responsibly in our classrooms and are being returned to our students' families now at the end of the year. We are so grateful for what these loaner-devices have allowed us to accomplish with our students this year! We hope to continue this initiative next year with your support. Please see the Q&A below to learn more about B.Y.O.D., and email Mrs. Zimmerman or Ms. Gregory with any questions, concerns, or suggestions you have about Bring Your Own Device.

Warm regards,
The Third Grade G&T Teachers



Third Grade G&T Bring Your Own Device (B.Y.O.D.) Q&A

Q: What type of device should my child bring?

A: Our preference is that students bring a laptop, either PC or Apple computers are fine. (Both third grade teachers have extensive experience using and teaching with both the Windows and Apple operating systems.) We feel that laptops are the gold standard for content creation, given that students can easily type, create web content, program, and edit digital content on laptops.

Tablet devices (e.g. iPads,) are our runner-up devices. While tablets have many wonderful uses, students are often less comfortable typing with on-screen keyboards, some websites do not work properly on tablets, and installing/updating software can be somewhat more complicated.

Students do NOT need a new device at school. A hand-me-down or refurbished laptop would be perfect! (Students do not need blazingly fast devices or devices with a ton of memory.) Our main technical requirements are that the devices can wirelessly connect to the internet (Wi-Fi enabled), and ideally can hold a charge. If you send in a device that is set up with administrative passwords, please provide the necessary information so that we can update and install software, and connect your device to the school's wireless network.

(Hand-me-down computers are great, but if you are considering purchasing a device, perfectly fine refurbished laptops are available from many electronics retailers for less than \$200. However, please do not send in broken laptops; we don't have the expertise to fix them.)

Q: Where will the device "live"?

A: The laptop/tablet (called the "device" here,) will remain at school for the duration of the school year. It is unwieldy for the students to bring their devices to and from school on a regular basis, (the devices weigh too much in their backpacks,) and if the devices travel back and forth, they are far more likely to break. Devices will return home at the end of the school year.

Q: What will happen if my child does not bring a device to school?

A: Providing a device for your child is NOT mandatory, and we understand that it is not possible for all families to send a device to school. We have some devices at school that will be available to students who do not bring in a laptop from home, and we will make every effort to ensure that all students have access to technology while at school, regardless of whether they have brought in their own device. B.Y.O.D. is intended to augment, not replace school-owned technology, and we hope that B.Y.O.D. will free up school-owned devices to allow greater access for everyone.

Q: Who is responsible for the device?

A: Ultimately, you (and your child) are responsible for the device that your child brings to school. Chelsea Prep is not liable for damaged, lost, or stolen devices. However, we understand that third graders cannot entirely manage their devices without teacher support. We will provide a secure storage solution (locked cabinet/closet) for all devices within the classroom, as well as basic technical support. We will teach students how to responsibly care for their devices. Both third grade teachers have taught extensively with devices in their respective classrooms and have excellent track records in terms of the successful maintenance of classroom devices. (We didn't have a single device break or go missing this year.)

While the school is not legally responsible for B.Y.O.D. devices, as always, we teachers are responsible for how the devices are used by the students in the classroom, and we will teach appropriate digital citizenship. (Devices will join our school wireless network that enables safe, filtered web access.) Furthermore, we will make sure that all classroom technology use is purposeful and supports a rigorous curriculum that emphasizes critical thinking and social interactions.

Q: What are the “Rules” for B.Y.O.D.?

A: See the attached *B.Y.O.D. Agreement Form* and the corresponding “Acceptable Use Policy” for students. Families participating in the B.Y.O.D. pilot will be asked to sign the this agreement after discussing the Acceptable Use rules with your children.