Welcome to Mrs. Torres' Class
Welcome!

• Welcome to Somerset Academy’s Open House! I am Mrs. Torres and I am very delighted to be your child’s 3rd grade teacher. Together, we are going to have a great school year!

A little about myself…

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GpXTL7xzAXE
The 3rd grade curriculum consists of Reading, Language Arts, Math, Science, and Social Studies. Our curriculum follows the Florida Standards, providing every child with a well-rounded education.

We will be utilizing “Journeys” and “Go Math” textbooks/workbooks to supplement the curriculum. Along with the textbooks, we will also incorporate newspaper articles, magazines, and novels into their learning and enrichment.
FSA-Florida Standards Assessment

- The new exam will assess students in English/Language Arts and Mathematics is the Florida Standards Assessments (FSA).

- The new test will provide a more authentic assessment of the Florida Standards, because it will include more than multiple choice questions. Students will be asked to create graphs, interact with test content and write and respond in different ways than on traditional tests. New question types will assess students’ higher-order thinking skills in keeping with the higher expectations of the Florida Standards.

- **Assessment Dates: March 31 - April 10**

- **Somerset FSA Tutoring Program** - Registration will begin before winter break and tutoring will begin upon our return to school.
Grades and Pinnacle

• 100% – 90%  A
• 89% - 80%  B
• 79% - 70%  C
• 69% - 60%  D
• 59% and below  F

Class work = 25%
Homework= 10%
Tests = 35%
Quizzes= 20%
Projects = 15%

Pinnacle is our student database system. Parents will be able to access their child’s grades through this system. Login information will be distributed in the upcoming weeks.
Schedule

- 8:00 - 8:45: Science/S.S.
- 8:45 - 9:35: Reading/L.A.
- 9:35 - 10:10: Specials
- 10:15 - 10:50: Reading/L.A.
- 10:50 - 11:00: Snack
- 11:00 - 12:15: Math
- 12:15 - 12:45: Lunch
- 1:00 - 1:30: Structured Physical Activity
- 1:30 - 2:00: Sustained Silent Reading
- 2:00 - 2:15: Dismissal
# Specials

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Spanish</td>
<td>Music</td>
<td>Library</td>
<td>Science Lab</td>
<td>P.E.</td>
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<td>(1:20-2:00)</td>
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Classroom Management

- Rules
- Rewards
  - Groups
  - Individuals
- Consequences
- Compliment System - “Celebration Jar”
- Class Dojo
Planner

- Planners are used daily and provide much information such as the year long calendar of school activities, homework, spelling/vocabulary words and notes from school to home.

- Reviewing the planner nightly will give you an opportunity to check and discuss your child’s homework and progress. It will also give me the opportunity to communicate with you if needed.

- Please initial every evening.
Homework

- **Homework is assigned daily and turned in the following day.**

- Students should expect approximately an hour of homework daily in order to reinforce material covered and maintain their grades.

- Your child will have homework Monday through Thursday, and occasionally Fridays. Homework will also be posted on my Web-Page on www.somersetacademy.com

- On Fridays, the students must copy down next week’s spelling and vocabulary words in their planner to show on Monday.
Homework -continued

Spelling Homework

- **Mondays**: Write words 3 x each and in ABC order
- **Tuesdays**: Spelling Ladder with each word
- **Wednesdays**: W.O.W. –”Writing On Wednesday”
- **Thursdays**: Sentence with each word; Study
- **Fridays**: - Copy down Spelling and Vocabulary words
  - Return Friday Folder with any signed papers

Math Homework

- Students complete the assigned page(s) for each night

Reading

- It is recommended for students to read any age appropriate book or story of choice for 15-25 minutes every weeknight. They have a Reading Log which is to be filled out and will be collected at the end of each 9 weeks.
- They will also receive reading comprehension worksheets and Vocabulary homework.
Tests

• Tests count for 35% of your child’s final average.

• Each Friday, our tests will include: Spelling, Vocabulary Definitions and Reading Comprehension.

• **Math, Social Studies and Science Tests** will vary based on the length of the chapter. Your child will receive a Study Guide for Social Studies and Science Tests.

• Please keep in mind, Reading, Social Studies and Science Tests are **Open Book**. (Due to yearly reproductions, these assessments will not be sent home).

• If a student receives lower than a 70% on a test, I will send it home to be signed and returned in their Friday folder.
Communication & Friday Folder

• Communication is an important part of success for your child. I will provide weekly updates through my web page @ www.somersetacademy.com

• The fastest way to reach me is by e-mail. Please feel free to e-mail me at antorres@somersetacademy.com with any questions or concerns anytime.

• Friday folders are sent home every Friday. Please review and keep all papers at home. If any papers need to be signed, please do so and return on Monday.

• It is my commitment to help your child succeed by establishing a strong school-home connection created through parent teacher communication. Please be advised that I will begin conducting conferences in October.
Parents must complete a total of 30 volunteer hours.

- These hours may be completed by helping out in the classroom or school, purchasing supplies for the class, volunteering for special events or projects, donating snacks, or chaperoning on field trips.

- ($4 = 1 volunteer hour with receipt)

- If an item from my WISH LIST is purchased, PLEASE complete a Volunteer Record Form and attach the receipt. I will sign the form and turn it in to the office.

- Log onto: www.paymyschoolfees.com to monitor and check your volunteer hours (directions will be provided on my web page)

- Room Parents needed: If you are interested in becoming a room parent for our class, please send me an e-mail 😊
Uniforms

• Follow Somerset School Uniform Policy.

• Please send your child with a sweater daily!

• **P.E. Days** – Students must wear P.E. uniform

• **Fridays**: *(please check calendar in planner for exact days)*

• **Spirit Days** - Students can wear their Green Spirit shirt with jeans.

• **Dress Down Days** – Students can dress down for $2 *(Please check the school uniform policy on which attire is appropriate for dress down days).*
Attendance

Somerset Academy follows Broward County Schools Attendance Policy 5.5!
This means every minute counts, from absences, tardiness, and early sign outs.

• School begins at 8:00 am. Students that arrive late to school must have parents sign them in the office and pick-up a late pass before walking to the classroom.

• For absences: Please provide a note explaining the reason for your child’s absence or contact Maggie at moharriz@somersetacademy.com

• If you are planning for a trip or special occasion, you must submit a letter and get prior approval. Failure to get pre-approval may result in unexcused absences on your child’s attendance record.
Dismissal

- Carpool pick-up is from 2:00 - 2:30 p.m. After 2:30 p.m., students will be sent to the elementary office and incur a late fee.

- Early Release Days – dismissal is at 12:00 p.m.

- If you’re picking up your child from carpool: Please hang colored decal from your rearview mirror and make sure to include your child’s name using a dark marker. This will allow our carpool to run smoothly.

- Early Pick-up is not allowed after 1:30 P.M.

- Walkers- please fill out and sign permission form

- Parking is no longer allowed at Rose Price Park!
Reminders

- Lunch is $3.25; accounts are up and running.

- At times, it is quite cold in the classrooms. Please send your child with a sweater to school if needed.

- Students are required to read a chapter book daily if they complete their work and for SSR. Some of the titles we will read during SSR may include Charlotte’s Web, How to Eat Fried Worms, Charlie and the Chocolate Factory, and Because of Winn Dixie.

- As of July 1st 2013, we no longer accept CHECKS. Payment methods allowed are online payments, credit cards, money orders or cash. Checks will be allowed for Lunch accounts only.

- **Free and Reduced Lunch Applications** are now available on-line. Please visit our Somerset Academy Website, select the Parent Tab on the top to locate the document.
What’s New for 2014-2015

• Somerset Academy Classroom Web-Pages. Please create an account to receive updates regarding my webpage. Instructions have been provided on my web page for your convenience.

• “Meet the Masters!” Parent volunteers are needed- Applications are available.

• Educational Software: Think Central-Journeys and Go Math; Study Island

• Students will receive log-in information as it becomes available and directions will be posted on my Web Page.

• Field trip forms and payments are now available and can be completed through our school website. Once you have completed the form and paid online, please print and sign your confirmation receipt and send in.
Final Note

• I am truly excited to be part of the Somerset family and teaching your child! I know that all children can learn and that it is a collaborative effort between the parents, teacher, and student. I am committed to the success of your child and I hope to inspire and educate them. I know we will have a successful year!