

- **TAT Team:** A Teacher Assistance Team is held when a teacher or parent is seeking additional support and resources to assist a child's progress. Parents, teachers, administrators and other staff are invited to this meeting.
- **Visualizing:** Creating images before, during, and after reading. This assists the reader in fully experiencing the text.
- **Week At A Glance:** This sheet is used by all third graders to keep track of their nightly homework assignments and reminders. Parents should sign it each night.
- **WISC:** Weschler's Intelligence Scale for Children. Used in some special education testing.
- **WJIII:** Woodcock Johnson test used for special education testing. Results provide an achievement and aptitude score.
- **504 Plan:** An educational plan for a student with an impairment (i.e. Attention Deficit Disorder) that significantly restricts one or more major life activities.

Dear Parents,

This glossary has been developed to assist you in discussions with your children about things that go on here at the Day School. We often find ourselves using terminology we are very familiar with but have realized you may not be as familiar with. We hope this glossary helps you understand the "Teacher-isms" that might otherwise go unexplained. If you come across a term that is not in our book, please let us know. We will add it for future reference.

Accelerated Math: Placement for Grade 5

students qualifying for this math placement.

- **Behavior Alerts:** A form used by teachers to inform parents about a behavior that occurred at school.
- **Building Community:** The social curriculum developed and taught at the Day School. It concentrates on helping children make friends, and establish conflict resolution skills.
- **Clustered classes:** These are classes that switch between two teachers for science and social studies.
- **Cobra Council:** Monthly meetings facilitated by school administrators where students receive STARS certificates, guest speakers present pertinent information, etc.
- **Code of Conduct:** The code which children sign that is the backbone of how we interact and behave at the Day school.

Connecting: Relating texts to one's own knowledge And experiences, other texts read, or things known in

The greater world.

- **Specialists:** Subjects such as art, general music, physical education, and library.
- **Speech/Language Pathologist** - an individual with certification in speech and language pathology qualified to diagnose speech, language, and voice disorders and to prescribe and implement therapeutic measures.
- **Spirit days:** These are days throughout the year with a designated theme children come to school dressed as, Green Day, Hat Day, etc.
- **Steps to Respect:** Anti-bullying curriculum implemented by the school Guidance Counselor during classroom lessons in Grades 3-5.
- **Student Information Forms:** These forms are sent home in the spring for parents communicate information for student placement in grades four or five

- **Progress Reports:** The tri-annual standards-based report card. Students carry these home.
- **Receptive Language** - Includes the skills involved in understanding language
- **Rubrics:** A rubric is a tool used by a teacher to assess children's work. Grades or numbers appear down one side and the criteria to reach that grade is on the other.
- **RRF:** Reading Resource Facilitators. These are regular education paraprofessionals used in classrooms to assist with reading instruction.
- **Self-contained classes:** These are classes that do not switch teachers for science and social studies.
- **SLP:** Speech/Language Pathologist
- **SMART boards:** A new piece of technology that allows a computer screen to become "touchable" on what looks like a white board.
- **SNT:** Special Needs Teacher.

- **Double D's:** These are behaviors, which children MUST report to an adult, they are either dangerous or destructive.
- **Eco Systems:** A study in science on the balance of life in a given area.
- **Expressive Language** - includes the skills involved with communicating one's thoughts and feelings to others.
- **Helpful Hints:** A form used by teachers to alert parents to a concern they are having about their child. It comes with a tip that can be used at home.
- **IEP:** An individual education plan designed for special education students.
- **Inferring:** Taking that which is not inherently stated in a text and using it to better understand characters, motivation or plot. This can also assist children in extrapolating info from texts to one's own life to create a new interpretation of a text.

- Math Fact Proficiency Tests:** These are math tests that the children refer to as “mad minutes.” They are timed, leveled tests that are used to improve children’s computation.
- **MRF:** Math Resource Facilitators. Regular education paraprofessionals used in classrooms to assist with Math instruction.
 - **MCAS:** The criterion-referenced standardized test that assesses teaching and learning of the curriculum frameworks (standards.) The acronym stands for Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System.
 - **Mid-Trimester Alert:** A communication mailed to Grade 5 parents that his/her child’s grades need improvement or the student has demonstrated gains in their achievement, Work Habits or Habits of Mind.
 - **Organizational binder:** The homework assignment binder that every child at the Day School maintains. Each night’s homework is written in this binder and parents are expected to initial each night.
 - **OT:** Occupational Therapist
 - **Parent Information Form:** A form that comes home in September and completed by parents to inform teachers of expectations or concerns parents have about their children’s upcoming year.
 - **Planner:** This pre-printed agenda booked is used by grade four and five children to keep track of nightly homework assignments and reminders. Parents are expected to review and sign it each night.
 - **Portfolio:** This is a binder that contains a collection of student work throughout the year.
 - **Pragmatic Language** - The practical skill of using language in a social context. It includes the use of greetings, appropriate use of nonverbal behaviors, etc.