

# Mr. Smith's

Third Grade Rockstars!

10.04.21

## How's it Going?

*Are you on the right track?*

Holy cow! Testing has finally concluded for the season- thank you to all of you for keeping a positive attitude and grinding those out! You will all be rewarded with a 4-day weekend coming up after this Wednesday. Be sure to check the LL schedule on page two of this Newsletter for details!

**Students should be around 34% complete with semester courses and 15% complete with year-long courses.** Use this as a guideline for keeping on pace with successful completion- especially if you joined our class after the first official day of school.

Throughout this year, you will want to keep in close communication with me often. In fact, this is a requirement! I've found that if you utilize my booking page, you can schedule out ALL the required meetings right now and have that out of the way. Here are the ways:

- WebMail
- Phone: 208-370-3628 (text or call)
- [YouCanBook.Me](https://www.youcanbook.me)

Connecting with me for monthly check-ins are a required part of attending Connections Academy. Please do not fall behind on these or my unsolicited phone calls will begin. No one likes those!

**Is your student struggling with Lesson completion? Has it become a challenge to get them motivated? Then please ask ME to step in and HELP! I can provide additional learning opportunities and support to aid in student success! Please, please take advantage of this and reach out to me NOW... don't let your student fall between the cracks!**

**"Don't let what you cannot do interfere with what you can do." – John Wooden**



## IRI and Star Test Scores

*Important:*

**If the Renaissance pre-test lesson is still appearing on your to-do list or planner, you may mark it complete.**

IRI Test scores for your student have been gathered with pertinent information about where your student currently lies in their Reading proficiencies and comprehension. I will be sending out student scores individually to you all throughout this week.

The Star Testing window closes as of today. I will be gathering those results for each student as well throughout the week. You can pull up general testing scores through the student's Data Views as well.

# LiveLesson Schedule and Assessments

## *LiveLesson Schedule Back!*

This is a short week for students. If you received a message from me to reschedule a meeting for this Thursday or Friday, please do so ASAP. Here is the LiveLesson schedule for the week:

**Monday:** Open Office 1pm PT / 2pm MT

**Tuesday:** Language Arts: Personal Narrative  
Introductory Paragraph 9am PT / 10am MT, Math:  
Using Multiplication to Divide 10:30am PT /  
11:30am MT

**Wednesday:** Time to Talk 8am PT / 9am MT, Time  
to Talk 9:30am PT / 10:30am MT, Social Hour:  
Show-and-Tell! 10:30am PT / 11:30am MT, Time to  
Talk 12pm PT / 1pm MT

**Thursday:** Professional Development Day - No LLs

**Friday:** Professional Development Day – No LLs

Important takeaways:

- Look out for IRI and Star Test scores to be sent to you via WebMail
- Remember to schedule a contact with me for the month! Our first one **NEEDS** to be in my LiveLesson room for activities
- My apologies for the confusion on Time to Talk grades. I have heard your concerns and made adjustments to how you view and interpret your student's progress!
- Get those monthly check-ins scheduled!



## Secrets of Success

- **Complete your Orientations**—Students and Learning Coaches
  - *The Best Kept Secrets* are in these presentations. Refer back to them often the first month of school...and any other time during the year. (You can find them in the Virtual Library or in Learning Coach Central.)
  - **Set up your study area**—Make it a special place where you do only school work. If a separate space is not possible, arrange your schedule so the space is only used for school during specific times of the day.
  - **Daily attendance**—Consistency is important in learning.
  - **Begin the first day of school or the day you have access to lessons**—if you have enrolled later—begin even if you do not have all of the books and materials! You have copies of the books online through the links in your lessons. If you get behind, it is hard to catch up. All workbook pages are available as PDFs.
  - **Do all your assignments in order.** Complete Portfolios before going on to the next Unit. Don't put off portfolios! Portfolios are intended to take multiple days with instructions for different parts given throughout a unit. Do each part as you are instructed to do so.
  - **Decide how you are going to use your Student Planner.** Learning Coaches can enter family outings and appointments and other events that will affect your schooling—monthly calls and LiveLessons.
  - **Be available for required monthly phone calls.** You can schedule a set time or you can use You Can Book Me to find the best time for you!
  - **Attend scheduled LiveLessons.**
  - **Mark the STATE TESTING Dates on your Family Calendar when made available.** ISAT testing will happen in the spring. You will receive more information on this later.
  - **ASK QUESTIONS!** If you are new to INSPIRE—it takes a few weeks to get adjusted to this new way of learning. If you are a returning family, it will take some time to adjust to the new curriculum and get back into your school routine. If you have questions—ask. If I don't know the answer, I will find out who does.
  - **Clear curriculum modifications with your teacher.** Some families may need to have the curriculum modified for various reasons. Please work with me so that your student continues to meet Idaho Standards while meeting his/her unique needs.
  - **School Support/Tech Support—800-382-6010.** You can always call Connections Academy with questions—especially if they are computer or equipment related. I will direct you to these numbers if you are having issues with the materials CA sent.