

This Newsletter belongs to _____

5TH GRADE NEWS
October 8, 2009

Dear Parents,

It has been quite busy around here lately, and the crisp fall-like weather has made things extra active! Speaking of weather, please be sure your child has warm clothing for outside recess. In addition, check uniforms for cleanliness and completeness and review uniform specifications. Only school sweatshirts are allowed in the classroom unless there is a no-uniform day or passes are used.

Thank you all for your participation in Marathon activities. Our service at the cemetery yesterday was, as always, memorable. Money can still be brought in. 100% participation is ideal. Please send in collections as soon as possible.

Here is a summary of what is coming up and what is going on:

- Check Powerschool for updated grades regularly. This and the planners will keep you informed of assignments and expectations. One thing to keep in mind concerning grades - with few exceptions (including student illness), all assignments must be turned in no later than the day of a test on the material. Penalties for late work will still apply if relevant.
- Conferences will be held on Nov 5th and 6th. Please be sure to get your preferred time slip in by tomorrow if you have not already done so. This can be gotten off the school website. Conferences will be scheduled next Monday morning.
- This is Fire Prevention Week. Your 5th grader enjoyed a program on fire safety on Tuesday. Review home safety rules and procedures as well and test those fire alarms!
- MEA break next week. No school on Thursday, Oct. 19 and Friday, Oct. 20.
- Vision Screening will be held for all 5th graders on October 22.
- Art Adventure for 5th grade is happening this month.

MATH:

Mrs. Rustin & Lehman: Students have begun Chapter 2 on Multiplication of Whole Numbers and Decimals. We are practicing basic multiplication facts throughout the week. Any extra practice at home would be very helpful. All students were given their Successnet username and password. This website directly corresponds to the text used in class. It has several skill building activities and is very helpful with test preparation as well. Please watch your child's planner for Checkpoint Quiz dates.

Mrs. Thomas: Course 1 Middle School Math. Though we are still on the first chapter, we have covered a lot of

territory -mostly catching up on topics not yet covered due to skipping the entire 5th grade book. Following a 2nd quiz covering lessons 1.5 - 1.8, we will review and have the test on Chapter 1 on Monday.

Chapter Two will cover Measurement and Statistics. We will dwell on metrics for some time and have some fun with graphing.

Mrs. Bates: MS Math Course 2: Having begun Chapter 2 last week, the students will complete a quiz on 10/8 covering the first four lessons. Next week, they will continue with scientific notation and the metric system.

LANGUAGE: Students took the Unit test on adjectives this week. Please look for these to come home for a signature. We will be finishing our Descriptive writing unit with a spooky story writing project. Students will write and share a Halloween story while enjoying a spooky snack. Please watch planners for a spooky ingredient request to come home in the next couple of weeks.

SPANISH: The fifth graders enjoyed the study on Cesar Chavez, a notable Hispanic American. This week, the students will begin a study on Latin America as they learn the names and locations of countries and capitals and also interesting facts about each country.

READING: Students will be reading *John Henry*, a tall tale adventure of a folk hero with a sledgehammer in each hand and a rainbow around his shoulder, who is challenged to a desperate contest.

As of today, your child has _____ of the 5 required READO squares completed. READO is due for all 5th grade students November 17th.

Mrs. Doeksen's Reading Group:

For one of our continuing projects we are reading thirteen of the Maud Hart Lovelace book nominees. Students should be reading one at all times. The voting will take place in February. When a student finishes one, they pick up another one. Several of the students are reading at least one each week.

Ask your student about the special award for each ten books read.

Your student will be asked to make a presentation about once every 6 or 7 weeks.

We try to have some puzzlers and or games every week. Your student might want to share some.

We are using the book, Danger In Quicksand Swamp by Bill Wallace, to work on reading skills such as: making inferences, synonyms and antonyms, problem and solution, story elements and cause & effect.

There is a weekend reading and writing requirement due on Tuesdays. Your student needs to read at least ½ an hour

each weekend in any print media they choose...magazines, newspapers, books, etc. Your student will also prepare a writing each weekend that he/she will share with the class on Tuesdays. Ask to see the rubric we use to determine the quality of the writings.

RELIGION: Lesson 4 discusses Choices. 5th graders have reached the age of responsibility for their actions. Making good spiritual choices involves more than being informed. Faith and a good relationship with Our Lord will help during those times of decision. This lesson is followed by a review of the Ten Commandments in Lesson 5.

SCIENCE: What fun we have been having with plant parts! Tomorrow's quiz will cover Unit 1, Chapter 4, lesson 2 and the additional work we have been doing with flowers and seeds. Next will be a brief lesson on uses of plants before the chapter test in about a week and a half. As much as we hate to see them go, the Crop Art Projects can now come home. Please help your child get his/her project home safely ASAP.

SOCIAL STUDIES: The Chapter 1 Social Studies test has been returned, unless your child was absent. Please ask to see and sign the test. We are studying the voyageurs and fur traders who traveled this area from the late 1600's to early 1800's. We are using a number of different resources including Northern Lights published by the Minnesota Historical Society and the "Roots" magazine selection, "Fur Trade."

Many Blessings,
Your Child's Teachers