



## Saint Junipero Serra Catholic School Back-to-School Night Packet 5th Grade

Included in the Back-to-School Night Packet

- Online Contact Information
- Curriculum Outline
- Family Life Letter and Participation Acknowledgement **Due on Friday, September 6, 2019**
- Back-to-School Night Acknowledgement Form **Due on Friday, September 6, 2019**

### Online Contact Information

Administration:

Mrs. Angeline Trudell, President – [atrudell@serraschool.org](mailto:atrudell@serraschool.org)

Mrs. Julie Radzai, Principal Grades 5-8 – [jradzai@serraschool.org](mailto:jradzai@serraschool.org)

Mrs. Carol Reiss, Principal Preschool-Grade 4 – [creiss@serraschool.org](mailto:creiss@serraschool.org)

Mrs. Ellen Burrola, Assistant Principal Preschool-Grade 8 – [eburrola@serraschool.org](mailto:eburrola@serraschool.org)

Mrs. Debbie McGee, Assistant Grades 5-8 – [dmcgee@serraschool.org](mailto:dmcgee@serraschool.org)

Homeroom Teachers:

5A - Mrs. Jodi Howard, English Language Arts – [jhoward@serraschool.org](mailto:jhoward@serraschool.org)

5B - Mrs. Erin Husli, English Language Arts – [ehusli@serraschool.org](mailto:ehusli@serraschool.org)

5C - Mr. Glen Inducil, Math/Science – [ginducil@serraschool.org](mailto:ginducil@serraschool.org)

5D - Mrs. Rebecca Renna, Math/Science – [rrenna@serraschool.org](mailto:rrenna@serraschool.org)

5E - Mr. George Nuttall, Religion/Social Studies – [gnuttall@serraschool.org](mailto:gnuttall@serraschool.org)

Specialty Teachers:

Mrs. Gina Christman, Grade 5 Math/ELA Small Group - [gchristman@serraschool.org](mailto:gchristman@serraschool.org)

Mrs. Tricia Crowe, Grade 5 ELA Advanced Plus – [tcrowe@serraschool.org](mailto:tcrowe@serraschool.org)

Mr. Noah Loungarikis, Grades 5-8 Advanced Plus Math – [nloungarikis@serraschool.org](mailto:nloungarikis@serraschool.org)

Elective Teachers:

Mrs. Shannon Baine, Art – [sbaine@serraschool.org](mailto:sbaine@serraschool.org)

Mr. Brock Gozbak, Physical Education – [bgozbak@serraschool.org](mailto:bgozbak@serraschool.org)

Mrs. Esther Guzman, Spanish – [eguzman@serraschool.org](mailto:eguzman@serraschool.org)

Mr. John Rodriguez, Physical Education – [jrodriguez@serraschool.org](mailto:jrodriguez@serraschool.org)

Mrs. Kim Taylor, Music – [ktaylor@serraschool.org](mailto:ktaylor@serraschool.org)

The fifth-grade teachers use email as their main source of communication. For your convenience, the email addresses have been provided to you. Please allow a 24-hour response time.

## **Grading Policy**

Grades will be entered into the grade books in the following weighted categories:

80% Authentic Assessment

20% Approaches to Learning

The students will be continually assessed using both formative and summative instruments, such as rubrics, classroom activities, research papers, individual and group presentations, projects, quizzes, and tests. Activities that support learning, such as group work, class work, and homework, will make up a smaller portion of the student's total grade.

### **Formative assessment**

The goal of formative assessment is to monitor student learning and to provide ongoing feedback that can be used by teachers to improve their teaching and by students to improve their learning.

More specifically, formative assessments:

- help students identify their strengths and weaknesses as well as target areas that need work.
- help faculty recognize where students are struggling so they can address problems immediately.

### **Summative assessment**

The goal of summative assessment is to evaluate student learning at the end of an instructional unit by comparing it against standards and/or benchmarks.

Examples of summative assessments include:

- a chapter or midterm exam
- a final project
- a research paper/essay

Information from summative assessments can be used formatively when students or teachers use it to guide their efforts and activities in subsequent units or courses.

### **Homework and Late Work**

Completion of homework is an organizational skill that is critical to student success in middle school and beyond. A strict homework policy will be enforced. Homework is expected to be completed and submitted on the due date. The student will have 2 days to submit late work. After that, the assignment will receive a 50%.

Any work missed due to student absence is the responsibility of the student. Students should find out about missed work by checking the homework document (the link is posted on parent portal of the school website, and students will have the site bookmarked on their laptops) and then obtaining--outside of class time--any necessary clarification from a classmate or the teacher when they return from the absence. Students are

allowed as many days as they were absent to make up the missed work without being considered late. After the allotted time, the late work policy will be enforced.

### **Long Term Projects**

Long-term projects are due on the due date regardless of student absence.

## **Fifth Grade Curriculum**

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### **Religion**

Text: *We Believe*-Sadlier, 2015

*Family Life – Grade Five* Benziger 2011

- Chapel for Mass, prayer services, rosary prayer, and adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
- Diocesan Standards of Religion
- New Testament: the Sacraments; the Beatitudes; Gospel studies
- Family Life: The Five Components of God's Gifts
- The Spiritual and Corporal Works of Mercy
- Spiritual Retreats
- On-going Service in Action: Outreach projects and service opportunities
- Integration of Religion into all areas of instruction

Students will participate in formal and informal note-taking activities, study-skill reinforcement, class discussion, creative projects, and periodic assessments. Subject matter will consist of living our faith through prayer, the Sacraments, the Beatitudes, and the Spiritual and Corporal Works of Mercy. Weekly Gospel/Scripture activities will take place.

As part of Family Life, students will learn about the human reproductive system. This part of the course will be complemented by the Family Life component of our Religion curriculum. (Please also refer to the parent acknowledgement at the end of this syllabus.) The fifth-grade teachers will be facilitating the "Our Changing Bodies" presentation on **Thursday, November 21st**.

**Catholic Faith Formation Program:** In an effort to help our students become stronger members of our Catholic faith, the SJSC faculty will present they will present additional Religion curriculum revolving around basis catechism, including the Creed, liturgy and sacraments, Christian morality/justice, and prayer.

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### **Social Studies**

Text: *History-Social Studies – United States History*, Houghton Mifflin Company

Students will participate in formal and informal note-taking activities, class discussion, creative projects, oral presentations, practice of a variety of study strategies, and written assessments. Subject matter focuses on the California standards for fifth grade, which cover United States history from the Pre-Columbian

Period through the mid-1850s. Students will use reading comprehension and critical thinking skills, including analysis, cause and effect, inference, and evaluation, throughout the year. Activities include hands-on learning experiences that relate to American History, including Riley's Farm. In addition, students will study geography and are expected to know geographical terms, the location of the current 50 states, and the names of their capitals.

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### **English Language Arts (ELA)**

Text: *Reading: Wonders*

Publisher: McGraw-Hill

Novels:

- *Wonder* by R. J. Palacio
- *Sophia's War* by Avi
- *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe* by CS Lewis

During the reading classes in fifth grade, students at all levels of instruction will utilize critical thinking skills as they explore literature. Students will analyze works of fiction and nonfiction. Some of the literary elements that will be explored include theme, conflict, characterization, imagery, and figurative language. Students will read three class novels during the course of the year in a guided format that incorporates classroom discussion, literary analysis, and an exercise of higher-order thinking skills. The course will also feature high-quality literature from several other literary genres, including short stories, drama, poetry, and nonfiction. Multiple forms of assessment will be used, including tests, quizzes, projects, oral presentations, discussions, notes, and literature circles.

Grammar and writing are additional components of the Common Core English Language Arts curriculum. Writing a single paragraph in the Jane Schaffer format will be the main focus in fifth grade. Students will be given a rubric addressing all of the requirements for their final paragraph/essay before they write. Analytical content will be important, as will the mechanics of writing: grammar, spelling, MLA format, and punctuation. In addition, students will practice persuasive writing, poetry, as well as daily/weekly journal writing. Grammar will be taught using the *Voyages Grammar* workbook and supplemental materials.

### **ELA (Advanced Plus)**

The Advanced Plus Language Arts course is designed to follow and expand on the scope of the grade-level Language Arts courses. Students in the Advanced Plus Language Arts class will focus on analyzing both literary and informational texts and on producing clear and effective writing. In addition, students will identify and practice reading comprehension skills, applying them to multiple texts drawn from a variety of genres and sources. Assessments used in the Advanced Plus Language Arts courses include tests, quizzes (announced and unannounced), projects, oral presentations, writing assignments, and class discussions. Assignments in the Advanced Plus Language Arts course will be weighted similarly to corresponding assignments in the grade-level Language Arts courses.

In addition to the materials needed for class (laptop, folder, pen, highlighter), each student should bring to class each day a book of his or her choice, since time for individual silent reading is built into the day's lesson.

## ELA (Small Group)

Text: *Reading: WonderWorks (Intervention)* Publisher: McGraw-Hill

Novels:

- *Wonder* by R. J. Palacio
- *Phoebe the Spy* by Judith Griffin
- *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe* by CS Lewis

Small group ELA uses the *WonderWorks* worktext. This consumable worktext guides the class through the fifth-grade Common Core English Language Arts curriculum. Units are divided into “Weeks.” Each week covers organizational strategies, vocabulary, a grammar concept, a reading passage, and writing based on text evidence. We use a topic from the story to write a guided Jane Schaffer paragraph. At the conclusion of each week (which takes about 8 school days), the students will take a vocabulary and comprehension assessment. Analytical content will be important, as will the mechanics of writing: grammar, spelling, MLA format, and punctuation. In addition, students will practice persuasive writing, poetry, as well as daily/weekly journal writing.

In addition to the worktext, students will read three class novels during the course of the year in a guided format that incorporates classroom discussion, literary analysis, and an exercise of higher-order thinking skills. Grammar will be taught using the *Sadlier Grammar* workbook and supplemental materials. Multiple forms of assessment will be used, including tests, quizzes, projects, oral presentations, and discussions.

Reading Plus ([www.readingplus.com](http://www.readingplus.com)) is a web-based reading intervention that uses technology to provide individualized scaffolded silent reading practice. Reading Plus aims to develop and improve students’ fluency, comprehension, and vocabulary. **Seven sessions** are required per week; some will be completed in class, and some will be done as homework.

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## ELA Enrichment

ELA Enrichment supports the skills being developed through the ELA curriculum. These are skills that are beneficial across all content areas.

- Twenty minutes of Silent and Sustained Reading
  - Journal Writing
  - Grammar/Punctuation skills: *Simple Solutions* book
    - Reading Plus Vocabulary for small group ([www.readingplus.com](http://www.readingplus.com))
  - Individualized support for reading skills
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## Math (Advanced & Leveled)

Text: *enVisionMath 2.0 Common Core* Publisher: Pearson Education, Inc., Copyright 2015

*Simple Solutions Workbook* Publisher: Bright Ideas Press, (ISBN: 1-934210-12-9)

**The website for the math text is: <https://www.pearsonrealize.com>**

Real-world applications will allow students to see how they can use math in their daily lives and give students the foundation for the math needed in the future. Applications in every lesson inform students why it is important to learn mathematics. **The goals for fifth-grade math include strengthening students' understanding of place value, decimals, fractions, geometry, measurement, along with problem-solving skills.** A high priority will be placed on note-taking, math-specific vocabulary, and study skills. Classwork will be assigned from the *Simple Solutions* workbook, along with problems from the new material taught. All math work must be completed in pencil, with all work shown and answers boxed or highlighted in yellow. *Simple Solutions* and additional quizzes will be given on a regular basis. Chapter tests will be announced several days prior to the test date. Pencil, red pen, yellow highlighter, graphing notebook, *Simple Solutions*, and textbook are standard materials for class.

### **Math (Advanced Plus)**

Text: *enVisionMath 2.0 Common Core*, Pearson Education, Inc., Copyright 2015  
*Simple Solutions Workbook*, Bright Ideas Press

The California Common Core State Standards will be the focus of every lesson. Students also will incorporate the Standards for Mathematical Practice. Both sets of standards can be viewed at <http://www.corestandards.org/Math/>. Each day in class, students will engage in experience- and discovery-based activities. To enjoy the full benefit of learning, students must be present. Students will be responsible for one interactive notebook for journal note-taking and homework. Pencils, a set of colored pencils, a yellow highlighter, student interactive math notebook, math *Simple Solutions* and *enVision* workbooks, and a positive attitude are standard materials for this class.

***The website for the math text is: <https://www.pearsonrealize.com>***

### **Math (Small Group)**

Text: *enVisionMath 2.0 Common Core*, Pearson Education, Inc., Copyright 2015  
*Simple Solutions Workbook*, Bright Ideas Press

The California Common Core State Standards will be the focus of every lesson. Our class will use the textbook to guide us through the standards, and supplemental materials will be used to reinforce the concepts learned. The goals for fifth-grade math include strengthening students' understanding of place value, decimals, fractions, geometry, and measurement and developing their problem-solving skills. Basic facts are a MUST and will be assessed daily. Assessments will be given in a variety of formats, including written tests and quizzes, projects, group work, oral expression of knowledge, and the students' interactive notebooks. *Simple Solutions* will be directly taught and differentiated to be appropriate for students with a variety of learning needs. Homework will be a continuation of what we started in class and will reinforce the lesson taught that day. Homework must be completed in pencil only, with final answers boxed/highlighted, and students must neatly show supporting work in an organized manner. Pencil, red pen, yellow highlighter, graphing notebook (used as an interactive notebook), *Simple Solutions*, and the textbook are standard materials for class.

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## Science

Text: *Discovery Education Science Techbook* [www.discoveryeducation.com](http://www.discoveryeducation.com)

Discovery Education Science Techbook is a virtual textbook. This means students won't be lugging around big, heavy books in their backpacks. Instead, they'll access most of their science curriculum online and by doing hands-on labs or activities in the classroom. We are confident that Techbook's multimedia approach will excite students about the wonders of science and immerse them in the process of scientific inquiry.

**While there are similarities with traditional science textbooks, including reading passages that are leveled to a student's proficiency, there are important differences.** The Techbook is primarily a virtual or online resource. Your student will still have printed reading material for selected content, but the vast majority of the program's content is delivered online. --*excerpt from Discovery Education Science Techbook letter*

The fifth grade uses the 5th Grade Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) curriculum, which features three major units of study, including Life Science, Physical Science, and Earth Science. The students study these components through hands-on labs in the Student Creation and Leadership Center (SCLC), note-taking, and journaling using a variety of resources.

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## Creativity Lab

We are excited to share with your child the St. Junipero Serra 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>-Grade Creativity Lab. The Creativity Lab is a 21st-century learning lab for students of all interests, ages, and abilities. Creativity Labs put technology and learning resources in the hands of students, engaging learners in science, technology, engineering, the arts, and mathematics (STEAM) while building critical 21st-century skills.

Creativity Labs feature project-based, student-centered curriculum supporting STEAM and other core academic content. The Creativity Lab is a powerfully integrated and comprehensive learning solution that combines technology with academics to prepare students for college and career success.

St. Junipero Serra's Creativity Lab features unique opportunities for students to explore, learn, and work in areas such as alternative energy, circuitry, computer graphics, digital communications, mechanical structure, robotics, scientific data and analysis, and software engineering. In our Creativity Labs, students keep a daily record of their work, create final presentations, and self-assess their efforts. Together these records create a portfolio demonstrating the depth and breadth of each student's learning. We store the portfolio electronically, so students may use the term "ePortfolio" to describe the collection of work they maintain to demonstrate the skills, knowledge, and experience they gain while working in the Creativity Labs.

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## Specialty Elective Classes

All Specialty Elective classes will use the 4-1 grading rubrics

4 Highly Proficient

3 Proficient

2 Emerging

## 1 Deficient

### **Music**

Worksheets and lessons will be pulled from various music texts and websites. Students will be asked to download materials from OneNote throughout the year. Students will complete their study of musical items including dynamics, tempo, tonality, music history, music theory and other musical subjects. This will include a songwriting project, dance lessons, and discussion of movie and musical clips. Students will participate in the musical portion of the annual Christmas concert and prepare for monthly Masses.

### **Art**

8½ x 11 in. spiral-bound sketchbook

Students in grades 5-8 will be introduced to a variety of historical and cultural styles, genres, and artists and will explore various media, materials, and tools to express specific meaning in works of art. Art classes will meet once a week, and the students are expected to come to class prepared with a sketchbook and any assigned materials and projects. The students will keep portfolios of their work throughout the trimester, utilizing the steps of art criticism as a tool for assessment, reflection, and appreciation of the artistic process. These portfolios will be brought home to share at the end of the school year.

### **Spanish**

Bienvenidos 5th graders! - Welcome! The goal is to provide a strong foundation of the Spanish language. We encourage parents to become involved in their students' learning experience. The class will meet once a week. Students are to come to class prepared with their Spanish workbook, composition book, and writing materials. Material covered in class should be reviewed on a daily basis. Students will use the Spanish workbook *¡En español–Level 1*. We are looking forward to a rewarding school year as your students successfully discover the advantages of learning the Spanish language.

### **Physical Education**

St. Junipero Serra's physical education curriculum will teach students new and challenging activities while emphasizing and encouraging the importance of a healthy lifestyle. Strategies to promote healthy life decisions will be taught. We will challenge all students to learn and grow while maintaining good character and building positive relationships.

The Physical Education program will focus on three main areas of student development and learning;

1. The students will develop the values of sportsmanship and fair play and will be able to transfer those learned skills into their everyday life.
2. The students will work throughout the year to increase their total fitness level and will evaluate their improvement through Fitness Testing Program.

## **PE Expectations**

- Students are expected to use the equipment appropriately and be aware of their surroundings. Safety is the number- one priority.
- Students are expected to show good sportsmanship by being respectful and responsible to other classmates and teachers.
- Students are expected to behave reverently during prayer. Absolutely no talking or disrespectful behavior will be tolerated.
- Students are expected to refrain from talking while the PE teacher, another teacher, an adult visitor, or another student is talking. .
- Students are expected to come to class ready to participate. A large percentage of the PE grade is based on participation.
- Students are expected to be at their numbers while the teacher takes attendance and be dressed in an SJSC PE uniform and gym shoes.
- Students are expected to follow the St. Junipero Serra Catholic Code of Conduct at all times.
- Students are expected to be positive, help others, and participate in class.

## **Uniform Policy**

1. The PE Uniform can be worn all day if the student has PE class on that particular day, unless it is a formal dress day. (See the Formal Dress Day Policy below.)
2. Shorts must be worn at waist level (especially the boys) and may not be rolled up at the waist or worn too high (especially the girls). All uniform policies and decisions are made at the discretion and judgment of the Physical Education Department and Principal.
3. Students may wear the designated school sweats any day they have PE class, but they must wear their PE shorts underneath.
4. Closed-toe athletic shoes, laced up and tied, are required for all PE classes.
5. On Formal Dress Days, students will stay in their formal uniforms. Students will not change clothes for PE class. .

## **Injuries/Sickness/Medical Concerns**

Any condition that requires a student to sit out of PE activities must be communicated to the school in a note or email signed by a parent. If a student misses multiple PE classes, a change in grading criteria and/or a conference with the student's parent may be required. A note from a parent will excuse a student from only three PE classes. A doctor's note is needed to excuse a student from any additional PE classes. If a student does not have a note and is not feeling well, he or she may communicate with the school nurse or a teacher. Students sitting out of PE class will be assigned tasks (scorekeeper, timer, written assessment, etc.). Students must notify the teacher immediately of any injury that occurs during class, even if the individual affected is still able to participate. During a medical absence, the student is responsible for all assignments or information given in class.

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## **Curricular Enrichment Activities**

**Science DAY Celebrating STEAM:** The Fifth Grade Science Day is the culmination of a cross-curricular, long-range project. Students will dress up as a scientist, inventor, or engineer of their choice and present their researched character to guests. This event will be held on **Wednesday, October 23, 2019, from 9:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.** in the Student Activity Center. Additional information will be introduced by the 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Science teachers.

**Family Life (Religion) - “Our Changing Bodies”:** November 21st - Students will meet in separate groups (boys group and girls group) with the fifth-grade teachers for a presentation on puberty. The girls will meet with Mrs. Renna and other female fifth-grade teachers while the boys will be with Mr. Nuttall and Mr. Inducil. An overview of the presentation will be shared at Back to School Night when the Benzinger Parent Connection booklet will be distributed to attending parents.

**Taste of America:** The “Taste of America” event is the culminating activity related to the state project. It is an opportunity for the students to demonstrate knowledge of their state while sharing a sampling of their state’s favorite dish. **“Taste of America” will be held on Tuesday, February 4, 2020 from 6:30-8:00 p.m. in the Student Activity Center.** Students will receive their state assignment prior to Christmas break. Additional information will be introduced by the 5<sup>th</sup> grade teachers. Those present at “Taste of America” will receive a Non Uniform Dress Pass for a later date.

**Retreat:** The 5<sup>th</sup> grade class will participate in an on-site retreat hosted by Santa Margarita Catholic High School Campus Ministry on **Tuesday, December 3, 2019** in the St. Junipero Serra Student Activity Center.

**Field Trips:** 5th Grade Field Trips are still pending and will be announced at a later time.

***IMPORTANT NOTE ABOUT ALL PARENT VOLUNTEERS:***

*All volunteers must be eligible for supervision of students by clearing the fingerprinting requirements of the Diocese of Orange and must have successfully completed the Safe Environment Training. Please see Ms. Gina Maricondo if you need to determine your eligibility.*

***Best Wishes to you and your child for a successful year;  
together we are partners in their success.***

***The Fifth Grade Team***



## St. Junipero Serra Catholic School Fifth Grade Family Life Program



During the second trimester, the fifth grade students will begin studying the family life component of our religion curriculum. We believe that parents are the primary educators of their children and that the Church and school community serve as partners with the family in that regard. It is the responsibility of the school to educate the students in Catholic morality and in the teachings of the Church. We are truly blessed to have your child as a member of the St. Junipero Serra community.

***Benziger Family Life*** is the series that has been adopted school-wide. This program reflects and reinforces a major priority in the Church today: the preservation of the fundamental importance and sacredness of the family. Through this program, your child will have an opportunity to develop and practice the healthy attitudes, moral values, and virtues of Christian family life.

A pdf digital file of the ***Benziger Family Life Parent Connection*** will be emailed to you this week for your review. Please take time to review this resource and keep it as a reference for use during the school year. The content page outlines each of the topics that we will cover during our study of this program. The subject themes will include: God's Gift of Family, Self, Life, Love, and Community. Should you have any questions, please contact your child's Religion teacher, Mr. George Nuttall, via email at [gnuttall@serraschool.org](mailto:gnuttall@serraschool.org). Thank you for your participation and support of this very important program. Please also note that the anatomy of the human body and the human reproduction system will be studied as part of the science curriculum in the **second trimester**. This study complements the unit of study that takes place in our religion classrooms. Please sign and return the attached Family Life Acknowledgement Form indicating whether your child may participate in this program.

Please detach the acknowledgement form below and return to Mr. George Nuttall **by Friday, September 6th.**

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### St. Junipero Serra Catholic School Family Life Program Participation Acknowledgement

**Student Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Homeroom:** \_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate your choices below by marking them with an "X".

#### Religion Component:

\_\_\_\_\_ **I grant permission** for my child to be included in the family life program in their religion class.

\_\_\_\_\_ **I do not grant permission** for my child to be included in this program in their religion class.

**Parent Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_



**St. Junipero Serra Catholic School  
Back-to-School Night ~ Fifth Grade  
Parent/Student Acknowledgement Form**

**Please return the completed form to your child's homeroom teacher by Friday, September 6th.**

We have read the Fifth Grade Back-to-School Night packet in its entirety and we are affixing our signatures to verify that we (parent(s) and student) understand its content and will comply with the aforementioned guidelines to the best of our ability.

Teacher Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade/Homeroom: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Name (printed)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent Name (printed)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date