



Dear Families,

Hello! We would like to welcome you and your child to Fifth Grade at Benjamin Franklin Elementary School! We are looking forward to an exciting and successful school year. Your child will be participating in a variety of engaging activities and learning experiences in the 2023-2024 school year. We are eager to work as a Parent-Teacher team to make your child's overall learning experience positive, challenging, and successful! With the combination of your dedication and the commitment of our team, we are confident that your child will have a rewarding school year.

As parents and guardians, you play a crucial role in your child's education. In order to prepare them to be at the best of learning, there are a few prerequisites that will ensure school readiness. These include the following:

- Ensuring your child receives adequate rest (8-10 hours of sleep each night);
- Providing a nutritious breakfast
- Talking with them about their school day and how they might be feeling;
- Labeling personal items, including jackets and hats.
- Encouraging them to take ownership of their education and school day by emptying their backpacks nightly, sharing any school news, completing homework and charging their chromebook, and then putting it all back into their backpacks in order to be prepared for the next school day.

This year for 5th grade your child will be platooning. This means simply that they will be changing classrooms and having 2 teachers, one for Reading/Vocabulary/Writing and one for Math/Science/Social Studies.

ELA: Reading/Vocabulary/Writing:

Our district's main resource for ELA is Collaborative Classrooms's Making Meaning and Being a Writer. In 5th grade, students will work in a collaborative classroom environment where they will build a reading and writing community. They will study the two disciplines alongside each other and dig deeper to understand many different types of texts and genres.

In reading the students will learn to question, analyze text structures, infer, determine important ideas, summarize and finally to pull all of the strategies together and synthesize. They will learn these strategies through the use of mentor texts in the form of read alouds and shared reading, as well as during small group instruction. The students will choose "just right" books on their own and/or with the help of their teacher, to practice the application of the strategies they are learning during IDR time.

In writing, the students will use what they are learning about literature and apply it to their own pieces of writing. They will learn and apply the writing process as they write personal narratives, fiction, nonfiction, opinion and poetry pieces. All students will have a writer's notebook where they will keep their writing ideas, drafts of their work and at the end of each unit they will publish their own original piece of literature.

Vocabulary, grammar, conventions, and spelling are integrated in ELA and are also an area of focus during small group instruction.

Mathematics: Our district has incorporated Investigations Math as its main resource for mathematics. We use a variety of other resources such as Exact Path, Study Island, etc. Fifth grade is an exciting time for learning mathematics. Although students spend a large portion of their school year developing strategies for multiplication and division of whole numbers, they will also engage in developing strategies for addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division of fractions and decimals. Students will also study area, volume, and basic geometry. An emphasis will also be placed on developing fluency with their math facts.

Science: Science topics will be taught throughout the school year. Students will be learning about changes in matter, human impact on our planet, patterns in space, and how energy flows through ecosystems. They will be asked to experiment with dry and liquid ingredients to make different states of matter, develop a plan for reducing energy usage at school, create an itinerary for a trip around the world taking into consideration time changes, moon phases, and seasonal differences, and finally researching an unpopular animal and explaining how it is important to the balance of all ecosystems on Earth.

Social Studies: This year, your child will study the History of America. They will study about the Native Americans, the formation of colonies, and the reason for unrest leading up to the American Revolution. Your child will also participate in BizWorld, which is a study of entrepreneurship, capitalist societies, and giving back to the community.

Homework:

Your child will be given a daily planner where they will write down their homework assignments for each day. Since 5th grade is the year that prepares your child for middle school, it will be his or her responsibility to make sure assignments are copied down completely in their planner on a daily basis. They will have approximately 30 minutes of homework each night. Missed assignments due to an absence should be made up in a reasonable amount of time and at the teachers discretion.

It is our hope that this overview has provided you with helpful information. Communication, commitment, and dedication are essential to the academic success of students. Let's work together to make this school year a successful "Community of Learners" for our fifth grade B.O.L.T.S.

Sincerely,

The 5th Grade Team

"The Greatest Adventure Is What Lies Ahead."

J.R. Tolkien

Fifth Grade Supply List

Please bring the following items to school.

- 1 zippered pouch
- 1 pack of erasers
- 3 packs of pencils
- 2 folders-take home/music & art
- BLACK Expo/Dry Erase Markers
- 1 package of 5-colored Post-it / Sticky Notes
- 1 package of highlighters
- 1 Box of 12 colored pencils or crayons
- 1 package of markers
- Glue sticks
- Earbuds
- 2 boxes of tissues
- 2 containers of disinfecting wipes
- OPTIONAL-mouse, whiteboard eraser

ELA: Reading/Vocabulary/Writing	Math/Science/Social Studies
<ul style="list-style-type: none">● 2 marble notebooks● 1 folder● 1 package of Ziploc bags (quart and gallon size)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● 2 marble notebooks● 1 folder● 1 pack of index cards● 1 package of Ziploc bags (quart and gallon size)

Please do not bring the following to school:

- Binders
- Any supplies not listed, all materials must fit in 1 zippered pouch.

Some supplies will be stored in the classroom and used when needed Throughout the year, if your child runs out of supplies, we will send a note home that supplies need to be replenished.