

Dear Students and Parents in Room 228,

Welcome to 5<sup>th</sup> grade! I hope you are as excited as I am and that this next year you make many new friends, indulge in fresh discoveries, and challenge yourself to continue growing as a learner, all at beautiful Northwood Elementary School!

Let me give you a brief introduction since some of you may not know who I am. I am Ms. LeVeque and this will be my eleventh year teaching 5<sup>th</sup> grade on Mercer Island! I cannot wait to meet all of you! Beyond my passion for kids and learning, I am a voracious reader, Husky football fan, lifelong believer in Disney magic, singer/dancer/performer, and world-traveler. I have lived in or near Seattle for all of my life and I feel most at home with my family and friends, surrounded by water and mountains with a coffee cup in hand. This summer, I went on a road trip to California and visited my favorite place- Disneyland- and spent lots of time in the sunshine reading books and hanging out with my friends! I cannot wait to hear all about your summer!

Fifth grade is an important and memorable year. You will have numerous privileges and responsibilities unique to fifth grade. While you are going to be a leader at Northwood, you will be preparing for middle school. Academically, you will participate in historical simulation games, self-select literature at your reading level, improve your own writing, perform messy science experiments, and dig deeply into mathematical thinking through purposeful math talk and activities. Throughout all of this, you will use technology as a tool to enhance your learning. It will be a fantastic year!

I eagerly anticipate having you in my class and the start of the new school year. All you need for the first day is a backpack, lunch, and a positive attitude. This school year may just be the BEST year of your life! See you on August 30th!

Warmly,

Marisa LeVeque

