



5th Grade Newsletter

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Dear Families,

Wow, summer certainly flew by! We would like to take a moment to welcome you back to school! We hope you all had a relaxing summer, and you are ready to get started! We are so excited to begin our year together!

Each month, we will send home a newsletter. The monthly newsletter will only provide you with a listing of our curriculum for the month. The students' CORE binders as well as their assignment notebooks will have up-to-date information regarding our current curriculum.

Please read this particular newsletter carefully as we try to outline classroom procedures and provide an overview for each class. There is a lot of valuable information contained in the notes below as well as the class summaries.

If you ever have any questions, please feel free to reach out to your child's teacher via email.

Odds and Ends....

- **Assignment Notebook** : Please check your child's assignment notebook very carefully to see that all of their work is completed. We fill this out together each day, so it can be as accurate as possible. Please make sure you sign your child's assignment notebook each night.
- **Gimmes**: We keep track of all gimmes in the students' assignment notebook, so please remember to check this on a daily basis as well. Each student is given two gimmes per class per quarter. All work that is incomplete falls under our Late Work Policy. Students can choose to use a gimme or partial credit, and they must still complete the work regardless if they are awarded credit. Most late/incomplete work is completed during recess times.
- **Homework**: All homework must be in complete sentences and in cursive unless otherwise instructed. Please remind students of this when you are checking over their homework. If work returns in any other format, they will be asked to redo their assignment in the correct format. Points will not be taken off, and they will not be asked to use a gimme or partial credit.
- **Questions**: If students find that they have questions on their daily homework, please have them write down their question on a post-it note, and they are welcome to share that question BEFORE the homework is collected. We are always available before school, at recess, or at lunch. We understand that questions arise, so they should not feel anxious about completing their work at home; we can help!!!!
- **CORE Binders**: In 5th Grade we use a binder to house all of our curriculum materials. Please take a look at this binder and reference it when helping your child complete homework and study for tests and quizzes. This is where you will find study guide and study materials for each class. These should be reviewed nightly/weekly to help prepare for tests and quizzes.

Reminders...

- Please complete all forms provided the first week of school as soon as possible. 😊
- Back to School Night - September 16th @ 5:30 pm
- Picture Day - September 25th
- No School - September 29th

Be sure to turn the page over to review our curriculum for September!

Class Summaries

Grammar: Students will be focusing on the skills associated with the Shurley Grammar program this year. Although we will not be classifying sentences, students will practice and review parts of speech. During the month of September, we will be working with types of sentences as well as parts of speech. Students will have worksheets and information in their CORE Binder.

Writing: In 5th Grade, students will begin a new writing program. This program is called *Writing and Rhetoric*. The focus of this year's program is narrative writing with the use of description and dialogue as well as beginning to write an argument. The students will have a workbook.

Spelling: Students have a spelling workbook. We do spelling 3 times per week. We have a test every 5 lessons.

Reading: We have reading every day for about 50-60 minutes. The emphasis of reading is comprehension and fluency, and also analysis and writing/responding to literature. In Mrs. DeGoey's class, reading homework will vary each night, so students will need to use the references in their reading section and pay close attention to their assignment notebook. Mrs. Foley's class will be using the *Reading Mastery 5* textbook and worksheets until the spring, when they will move on to novels. This month both reading classes will focus on literary elements. Mrs. DeGoey's class will then move on to the novel *Little Women*, while Mrs. Foley's class begins their *Reading Mastery 5* stories.

History: We have history class each day for about 35 minutes. We use our history textbook in addition to handouts, notes, and other activities. We will have a history test at the end of every unit. The students will be given history study guides or objectives pages to help guide their study. Our history focus this month will be map skills as well as world lakes.

Science: Our science curriculum is a Core Knowledge program that introduces science, engineering, computer science, and math standards. Students will also have 50 minutes of STEM class each week to work alongside the science curriculum they learn in class. Our first unit is Investigating Matter.

Math: Both math classes this month will focus on learning how to create math sheets for their daily lessons, taking initial tests in the area of facts and concepts, and getting familiar with a daily routine. Expectations sheets were sent home for each math class. Please refer to these for additional information. We are averaging a lesson a day with 5 lessons before a test. The initial lessons in each section are review from previously learned material.

Other

Spanish: This month, your child will be learning about leisure activities, places around town, and expressions to tell where and with whom you go. In addition, students will continue to review what they have already learned.

Greek and Latin Roots: We have Greek and Latin Roots once per week, but we study them throughout the week using flashcards or chants. The students are asked to memorize the root word, the definition, and whether or not it is Greek or Latin. We do not have homework in this class, but we do test every six roots. These tests are cumulative. Students have a study sheet in their binder.

Core Sayings: As part of our curriculum each grade has been assigned CORE Sayings and Phrases. Each month we introduce new sayings. We do test about once a month on these sayings. The students have study guides in their CORE Binders that they can study from. These tests are cumulative.

Handwriting : We will do handwriting each week. We have the class 2-3 times per week. We are practicing our lower and upper case letters.

States and Capitals : We have 50 states and capitals to learn this year. We will be learning 2-3 per week and practicing them. We will then take quizzes when we have finished a region. The students are creating flashcards together to use to study.

Core Virtues: The values of Classical School characterize the day-to-day interactions of its students, staff, and teachers. The nine core virtues that we will study throughout the year are respect, responsibility, compassion, integrity, courage, perseverance, cooperation, stewardship, and citizenship. During the month of September we will focus on the virtue of respect.

Have a wonderful September!!