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5th Grade Newsletter

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Dear Families,

We can't believe we will be starting second quarter soon! Where has the time gone? We are very busy in our classrooms, and we are enjoying your children! Second Quarter will begin on November 3rd. This means that report cards will go home soon after that, and Gimmes/Partials will begin again. It also means that we will be enforcing our ALL CURSIVE, ALL THE TIME rule as we have had a quarter to adjust to cursive.

The students are continuing to work very hard! Although we have made so many academic gains, we are still working in the areas listed below. We are really challenging them to give us their personal best during times of instruction and homework completion. We know that they will accept this challenge!

Finally, thank you for taking time to meet with us during conferences! It was fun to get to "brag" about your kiddos for a bit!

November Goals...

Thank you in advance for taking a minute to discuss these areas with your child, so you can see how you can help them achieve our goals!!

- **Listening and following directions** during times of transition and homework explanation. Being active listeners is a real skill, and we are all working on this. The students are asked to sit up, track the speaker, and participate in our lessons. This will help them retain information, complete their homework, and be better prepared for class. We are working on this as it is causing missed directions and confusion during class for some students.
- **Homework Completion** seems to be something we are seeing as a struggle with some students. Each day we fill out our assignment notebook together. Students are encouraged to highlight work that they have completed, and then use this to ensure all homework is finished. Starting now, ALL homework will be in cursive, complete sentences, done neatly, and must be finished to be deemed complete. Incomplete work will fall under our Late Work Policy.
- **Test/Quiz Preparation** ! Students should be studying or reviewing their content for a few minutes each night. All information is provided in their binders, and it is highlighted for their convenience. We have had some inconsistent test/quiz scores, so we are really working hard on this one!

Over the past few weeks the students have shown great improvement, but we know that they are capable of even more! We are excited to see that growth over quarter 2!

Important Dates...

- November 3 - Start of Quarter 2
- November 14 - 4th and 5th Grade Music Concert
- November 26 - No School
- November 27 - No School
- November 28 - No School



Class Summaries

Grammar: We will be doing Chapter 3 on some parts of speech and Subject-Verb Agreement. We will be heading into Chapter 4 at the end of the month where we will learn about Pronouns and Simple Sentences. All information can be found in their Grammar Section in their CORE Binder.

Writing: We will be finishing Lesson 2 in our writing workbook and beginning Lesson 3. Work is done in the workbook pages OR on paper provided by the teacher. Please have students look over their homework when they have it as they are forgetting to do parts of it at times. All work should be done in complete sentences and cursive. Examples are provided for each assignment in the workbook. If students have questions, please check there first!

Greek and Latin Roots: We are working through Roots 13-18 with a quiz at the end of the month that is cumulative. Students need to know the root's definition and whether it is Greek or Latin.

Core Sayings: We will be working through Lesson Three this month. The listing and flashcards can be found in their Core Sayings section in their binder. We will have a test at the end of the month that is cumulative.

States and Capitals: We are working through the Southern States this month. These can be found in the states and capitals section in their binder. Students should know their location and the capital. Please have them review nightly. We have noticed some lower scores on these tests, so please remind students to study regularly.

Spelling: We will be working on a lesson a day with a test every 5th lesson. Students should be reviewing spelling words nightly. A complete spelling list of words can be found in their Spelling section of their binder.

History: We will be working on our Renaissance unit and Reformation unit this month. Students have notes, study guides, and quizlet to use to prepare for all tests. Please have them review as needed for class and all assessments. After the Reformation, we will be starting The Golden Age of England. This should take us through the month of November.

Science: Our STEM classes have been going well! We finished up our unit on Investigating Matter, and we'll begin a new unit on Energy and Matter in Ecosystems. All notes and information can be found in the students' binders. Students should be reviewing NIGHTLY as this is new information and can be difficult to keep up with.

Mrs. DeGoey's Math: We have been learning how to multiply two digit numbers and how to identify fractions and percents. Students should continue to use their fraction pieces to help name parts of the whole. Students should continue to study and memorize facts nightly to help speed up their ability to do their homework. Students should also review their math assignments each night, checking for completed work, labels, and equations on each problem.

Mrs. Foley's Math: Students are performing well. Many are finishing their work in class and getting it checked prior to going home. To provide for work during their free time, we have begun doing a Daily Math half sheet to give them extra math practice. This should be completed nightly. Some concepts are review and some are challenging. They should try their best! This is not graded by point value but by completion. As a group we are working on grading more appropriately and listening during times of instruction.

Mrs. DeGoey's Reading: We have finished *Little Women*! The kids really enjoyed this story. There is a Part 2 that the students are encouraged to read if they are interested, but this is not a requirement, and we are not going to read it. We will be starting *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* next. This is always a student favorite!

Mrs. Foley's Reading: We are currently working out of our Reading Mastery book. Students are working on finding relevant information as well as outlining. We are still practicing answering questions in complete sentences with proper punctuation. They continue to have homework that includes worksheets, questions, and responses.

Spanish: This month, students will review how to conjugate verbs, and will learn how to say *to play (jugar)* in Spanish. Later, we will cover unit 5A in the textbook *Auténtico*, which includes family and parties, the verb *tener (to have)* and possessive adjectives. This chapter also includes a review of definite and indefinite articles. This unit will continue into December.

Have a wonderful November!!!!