



5th Grade Newsletter

Mrs. DeGoey

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Dear Parents,

We can't believe it is December already! We don't know where the time has gone!

Overall students have transitioned really well this past quarter. We are still working on silly or impulsive behaviors that are not school appropriate (excessive talking, etc.). Please have a discussion with your child to check in on their own behaviors and how they can improve upon these issues if necessary. Academically, we are seeing some challenges with homework completion, so please review their assignment notebook nightly before signing.

Winter Gear: Please make sure to send your child to school with a winter jacket, hats, and gloves. Students must also wear boots if they wish to play in the snow. It does get cold, so please dress your child appropriately for school, or they will be asked to sit outside the office during recess times. Thank you for your help in this area!

We wish your family a wonderful holiday season! As usual, email your child's teacher with specific questions and concerns.

December Notes...

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!!

Here are a few reminders regarding class performance to note:

1. All students should be doing cursive at all times.
2. Students should be studying nightly for classes in order to adequately prepare for tests.
3. All reading homework should be done in complete sentences and with detail.
4. Take-Home Folders should be emptied nightly.
5. All homework should be kept in student binders rather than putting it in the books or Take-Home Folder.
6. Please check your child's school supplies to ensure they have red pens, pencils, highlighters, etc.



Important Dates...

- December 24 - January 2 - No School
- Return to school January 5th

Curricular Extensions for Home...

- Quizlet - <https://quizlet.com/join/KGvdVuHGU>
- Math Fact Practice (either online or with cards)

Class Summaries

Grammar: We are currently working through our grammar workbook, as well as finishing up our unit on sentence structure. We've learned about simple, compound, and complex sentences.

Writing/Language Arts: We will take a break from our writing workbook this month and integrate our writing time with language arts. We will be reading *Don Quixote* together in language arts, which includes several grammar, writing, and spelling activities. The writing skill that we will be focusing on is persuasion.

Greek and Latin Roots: We are working through Roots 19-24 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 are working through Lesson Four 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 their states and capitals section in their binder. **Students should know their location, the capital, and how to spell each one**. Please have them review nightly.

Spelling: We are currently working up through Test 40. We will be working on a lesson a day with a test every 5th lesson. Students should be reviewing spelling words nightly to prepare for upcoming tests!

History: We are learning about the Reformation currently, and next will be England's Golden Age. We will be starting our Exploration unit after this. This unit has many people that the students must keep straight. Nightly review is imperative. Quizlet is available as well as study guides in their binder.

Science: Currently, we are working on our third unit, Modeling Earth's Systems. We are exploring how the hydrosphere, biosphere, atmosphere, and geosphere all work together. We are learning through our classroom textbook as well as through engaging STEM activities. Students have notes and worksheets in their binder, and should be reviewing material nightly.

Mrs. DeGoey's Math: We have been taking facts tests, reviewing mental math, and completing lesson practice activities in the math notebooks. This month we will focus on topics including organizing and analyzing data, solving two-step word problems, repeated practice with long division, and expanded notation. Please continue to have your child look over math assignments nightly for work completion and labels.

Mrs. Foley's Math: We are currently on Lesson 45 for math. The concepts are starting to become harder. We are working on decimal division and other larger concepts. Students tend to become easily frustrated and look for answers rather than problem solving. We are working on taking our time, reading the questions carefully, and learning how to build skills together to answer questions. I am still checking work in class, and students are still working very hard!

Reading: Mrs. DeGoey's class is finishing *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer*. The kids have really enjoyed this novel as they watched the main character get into so much mischief! Our next novel will be *The Secret Garden*. Students will work on characterization, theme, and prediction throughout the book. Students will also analyze the literary element symbol, and they will explain its portrayal throughout the novel. Students should continue to work on their assignments and provide Mirror, Answer, Support as well as complete sentences and proper grammar.

Mrs. Foley's reading class is finishing up a story from *The Little Princess*. We are working on contradictions, figurative language, exaggerations. We are also working on learning to expand our answers by providing evidence from the text. The students are doing really well!

Spanish: In December, your child will study vocabulary related to a party and family. Students will practice with the verb "tener=to have." Students will read the book *La leyenda de la flor de Nochebuena*, a comprehensible story retold by Tomie dePaola about a girl and Christmas traditions in Mexico.

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Have a wonderful December!!!!