5th Grade Newsletter for the Week of November 2, 2026

Upcoming Events

November 20 – Explorers Day – Each class will need at least four volunteers to help our students navigate the high seas on their search for golden treasure. Let your classroom teacher know if you can help.

November 23-27 – Thanksgiving Break

Here's a look at the week ahead:

Spelling

We will enter the words of List 8, with a test on List 8 on Friday, November 6.

Math

Lessons 5-1 through 5-15, Monday through Friday.

Science

We will do a nature study of a hemlock tree, then check and record the progress of our plant cuttings.

History

Explorers from England, France, and the Netherlands began to explore the North American continent in search of the Northwest Passage.

Writing

Having researched their explorers in depth last week, students will time this week writing their explorers' speeches which are due on November 12.

Poetry Recitation

We have memorized the entire Gettysburg Address. All final recitations of this speech will be due this week.

Geography

We will soon be embarking on the task of memorizing all 50 states, capitals, and postal codes, e.g., Colorado, Denver, CO. We begin with the first 15 states and capitals from the Western/Southwestern regions. Students will be given a map/study guide, blank copies of which are available on the website. The test on

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the West/Southwest region states, capitals, and postal codes will be on December 12. Subsequent tests will be held as follows:

December 11	West/Southwest
January 22	Midwest
February 26	South
April 2	Northeast
May 14	All 50 States and Capitals

Character Corner

The character trait for the month of November is Gratitude. "Feelings of connectedness, humility, and indebtedness resulting from gratitude can motivate us to put forth more effort towards school, work, our communities, and our relationships, perhaps even prompting us to strive for goals we would otherwise not have thought possible. Gratitude may, therefore, have the power to do more than make us happy and motivate us to improve our own lives. It can inspire us to become more productive members of society and to be better citizens of the world."

Source: How Gratitude Motivates Us to Become Better People

