5th Grade Newsletter for the Week of November 9, 2026

Upcoming Events
Friday, November 13 – Recitation of Gettysburg Address for East assembly. Parents are welcome.
November 20 – Explorers Day – How are the costumes and props coming along?

November 23-27 – Thanksgiving Break

Here's a look at the week ahead:

Spelling
We will enter the words of List 9, with a test on List 9 on Friday, November 13.

Math
Lessons 5-6 through 5-10, Monday through Friday.

Science
We will learn about the food chain from producer organisms which use photosynthesis to create energy from sunlight up to consumer organisms and the apex predators.

History
The Dutch began a course of exploration and trade that allowed a small European nation to become a giant of world trade. The Caribbean sugar trade developed into the trade of human capital from Africa to the New World.

Writing
We will conclude our current Research and Writing unit by finalizing our explorer essays and presentation speeches.

Poetry Recitation
We are going to memorize our next poem, The Arrow and the Song, by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow. We will recite this poem during the week of November 16.

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 have been given a

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map/study guide, blank copies of which are available on the website. The test on the West (11 states) and Southwest (4 states) region states, capitals, and postal codes will be on December 11. 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

Do not indulge in dreams of having what you have not, but reckon up the chief of the blessings you do possess and then thankfully remember how you would crave for them if they were not already yours.

Marcus Aurelius

Roman emperor (161-180 C.E.)