



# Fabulous 5<sup>th</sup> Grade!

December, 2017

MS. ERBERTI, MS. RELLA & MS. LOPEZ

## What we are learning:

### **MATH: MATH: EUREKA Grade 5 Module 3: Addition and Subtraction of Fractions**

In Module 3, students' understanding of addition and subtraction of fractions extends from earlier work with fraction equivalence and decimals. This module marks a significant shift away from the elementary grades' centrality of base ten units to the study and use of the full set of fractional units from Grade 5 forward, especially as applied to algebra. We are also asking that students who still need support with their Multiplication and Division Facts practice every night. All 5<sup>th</sup> grade standards require these skills to be mastered by the 4<sup>th</sup> grade. Students receive math homework every night please ensure your child is completing the homework. Utilize study guides when preparing for your monthly tests.

### **SCIENCE / SOCIAL STUDIES:**

We are now working on Earth's Materials/Landforms in Science. Students will be studying what the Earth is made up of as well as studying rocks (sedimentary, igneous and metamorphic). They will also be beginning to complete Science experiment logs on particular areas of the unit. In addition to Science, students will continue with Ready Gen in the classroom. We are reading an interesting book about a fifth grade class and their fascination with reptiles.

Our Social Studies unit for the months of December and January is Early Explorers of New York and Geography of New York. Children will be studying famous explorers such as Henry Hudson, Christopher Columbus, Louis and Clark and many others. We will be doing non-fiction research using laptops and pads for this unit as well as completing Project Based Learning projects as well as Tasks about the topics.

### **READING & WRITING:**

This month, in reading, we are working on building stamina with the students. At this point, all students should be reading for fifty minutes twice a day, once at school, and once at home. Book Baggies should be going home on a daily basis. Our reading focus for the month is to closely examine characters and their roles in a story. Your child will learn how to analyze characters, identify traits that characters have, as well as compare characters in the same book, as well as different books. As your child reads, have them discuss the different characters in their books. Have them find evidence to support their thinking. Your child has been reading "Tiger Rising" and really analyzing characters, both their internal and external traits, as well as forming their own opinions about the characters in their Independent Reading Texts. The focus for our writing genre this month is Literary Essays. During this SS unit, students will learn about how the Europeans set out to acquire new land. This unit focuses on interpretation. It asks students to theorize about characters in books in order to practice synthesis and inference. This unit requires students to begin thinking about big ideas or themes that authors present in novels.

### **REMINDERS:**

- Winter Recess - December 23rd - Jan. 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018—We return to school on Tuesday January 2nd, 2018.
- Middle School Applications were due by Friday December 1, 2017.
- Students must complete ALL Winter Break HW packets (ELA and MATH) over the break
- Return all signed Report Cards
- Winter sing is 12/22/17 at 9:00 a.m. please join us for the show!