

5th GRADE NEWSLETTER



Habit of Mind: Resilience

Quote: *Do more than belong: participate. Do more than care: help. Do more than believe: practice. Do more than be fair: be kind. Do more than forgive: forget. Do more than dream: work.*

WHAT ARE WE LEARNING THIS MONTH?

In reading... All classes are reading the verse novel, Home of the Brave or The One and Only Ivan. Some classes will send the book home for homework. Students need to be responsible taking care of their books.

These books will be read aloud, in partnerships, and independently. Students will be analyzing the book in many ways. They will study figurative language, theme, character traits, and character's perspective.

Students will be working to record their thinking in order to grow an idea across the text. Students will also be evaluating the strength and significance of their ideas by using text evidence.

Remember, students should be logging into their I-Ready Accounts, as well as their MyOn Accounts to further support their reading instruction.

IN WRITING...

In Writing, students are revisiting the craft of narrative writing. An important goal of this unit is for students to make connections with the narrative texts they see in reading. In this unit, students will be revisiting the skills they learned in previous grades to develop personal stories. Fifth grade personal narratives emphasize story structure, craft moves such as *show, not tell*, point of view, and stretching out the tension in a story. Students will expand on elaboration techniques using dialogue, descriptive vocabulary, and figurative language. Finally, students will work on revision as a means to clearly communicate ideas and meaning.

In math...

We are using what we know about multiplying and dividing to find the volume of rectangular prisms. How does this relate to multiplying and dividing? How many layers of cubes would fit inside a rectangular prism?

As we continue solving word problems, students will be working to show their mathematical thinking clearly to others. This includes using equations to show a plan for their answers, showing the steps they take clearly with words and/or equations, and making sure their answers to problems are clear.

IN SOCIAL STUDIES...

Fifth grade is wrapping up their study of European exploration of the western hemisphere. This month, we will begin examining America in the 1800s. Specific historical events include Westward Expansion, the U.S. Civil War, and the Industrial Revolution.

As always, content-specific vocabulary will be an important part of this unit. Expect your child to mention the Monroe Doctrine, Manifest Destiny, and the Transcontinental Railroad. Students will explore these ideas and more, as they make connections between the actions and consequences of major historical periods. Finally, fifth graders will be doing some

IN SCIENCE...

In fifth grade, the scientists in training, are observing physical changes and chemical changes by putting different substances together and observing the properties before and after. We have made solutions using salt and water and we have made others using food coloring. We are near the end of our Unit of Study—Physical and Chemical Changes. By the second week of December, every 5th grade student should have their Science Notebook to take home along with a review sheet in

Technology...

During the month of December, 5th grade students will apply what they have learned about Digital Citizenship while exploring the Google Apps for Education (GAFE) interface. Through the use of their G-Suite accounts, students will learn about; the importance of creating a strong passwords, and accessing class assignments on a digital platform. In addition, during the week of December 9th-13th all 5th grade students will participate in "Hour of Code" activities during Technology Class.

<p>work to examine different events from a different perspective.</p>	<p>preparation for their Unit Assessment. Your child's test date is indicated on the review sheet. At home, you can help review some of the science words we have used in class. Please make sure your child's Science Notebook is kept in a safe place.</p>	
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<p>In Health... Nutrition unit- We will be finishing our Nutrition topics about smart & healthy choices while understanding our digestive system functions.</p> <p>In Gym... Team Sports-Basketball Unit... Working on teamwork, sportsmanship and communication and of course our gross motor basketball skills.</p>	<p>In Music... We will be learning about the four basic rhythms: the quarter note, half note, dotted half note, and whole note. We will also learn how to read notes. We will learn about other song forms: AABA, ABA, and songs with bridge sections.</p>
<p><i>Upcoming Dates & Important Event</i></p> <hr/> <p>January 2: Welcome back to school! January 6: PTA Read-A-Thon begins! January 12: PTA Brooklyn Nets Game January 20: No School January 23: Open School Night</p>	<p>** Reminders **</p> <hr/> <p>Make sure your child has sharpened pencils for school each day!</p> <p>Middle School applications have been turned in. Results should be out sometime in March!</p> <p>Please return 5th grade dues as soon as possible!</p>