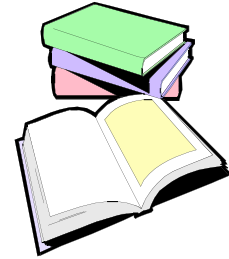


Fifth Grade Newsletter First Quarter

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Is it November already? As the second quarter begins, the fifth grade team would just like to say how wonderful it has been teaching your children. We would also like to send out a big “thank you” for all of your help and support thus far. We are off to a great start. We continue to reinforce our motto for this year, “We expect great things from you.” Parent conferences are just around the corner and we look forward to seeing you to discuss your child’s reading progress.



LANGUAGE ARTS

Our Language Arts curriculum for the second quarter will continue to focus on reading strategies and the three reading purposes: Reading for Information, Reading for Literary Experience, and Reading to Perform a Task. We will also continue to focus on the three writing purposes: Writing to Express Personal ideas, Writing to Inform, and Writing to Persuade

Each week a spelling pattern, category or rule is discussed in class. Spelling homework is assigned on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday nights. Grammar is assigned on Mondays as well. Reading homework is given on each Friday and is due the following Friday. Spelling tests are given at the end of each week. The students are encouraged to practice and study their words nightly. The students will also have a grammar quiz on Friday.

MATHEMATICS

In Math classes, the children worked hard on first quarter objectives and will soon be starting graphing and statistics followed by fractions. We are currently working on multiplication and division. We continue to focus on problem solving. Throughout the year, we will be using the ten problem solving strategies to solve an array of problems. Just as a reminder, your child has Math homework every night except Friday. **It is very important that students know their basic multiplication facts, and if necessary, study them nightly.**

TECHNOLOGY

Fifth graders have been involved in Type to Learn 3 to reinforce their keyboarding skills. Students will also work with Microsoft Word to enhance and extend the writing process. They will be working with many different types of programs in the Media Lab to apply their keyboarding skills.



SCIENCE



Fifth graders began the year by exploring objects other than planets in the solar system. They investigated the effects of the Earth’s rotation and revolution around the Sun, movement of celestial bodies, as well as the repeating patterns of celestial events.

As we move into the second quarter, students will begin a unit on physical and chemical changes entitled, “Earth Matters.” We will continue the study of states of matter, conservation of matter, and physical and chemical changes in matter, with a focus on water. Students will develop background knowledge about bodies of water in Maryland, specifically the Chesapeake Bay, and the impact of human activity and environmental factors on that ecosystem

SOCIAL STUDIES

Fifth graders have done an excellent job analyzing and interpreting information about the Colonial Period. We have used resources such as the Internet, the History Alive text, as well as short articles to gather information about people and events during the Colonial Period. We will be wrapping up our study of the Colonial Period by

examining how individuals and groups have contributed to the development of cultures, which are apparent today. Fifth graders will continue to study the history of the United States by examining the major events leading up to and during the American Revolution.

REMINDERS

Please check your child's supplies on a regular basis and replenish the following when necessary: pencils, crayons, glue sticks, and marking pens.



Be sure your child has lunch or lunch money each day. The cost of lunch is \$2.00. Milk is \$0.50 and all snacks are \$0.60. **Please make sure you empty out the Friday Folder and sign it each week. Please return it on the next school day.** It is not necessary to make a comment unless you feel the need. Your signature tells us you have received and reviewed your child's work.

Please encourage your child to read each night.

Thank you for your continued support. We look forward to meeting with you at conference time.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Baylin
Mrs. Schmitt
Mr. West