

# September/October 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Newsletter

## Reading Workshop

For the month of September, our students will challenge to meet the demands of the 5<sup>th</sup> grade reading expectations by being able to recall important reading strategies that were taught to them during their elementary academic career. They will be encouraged to read novels that require critical thinking. The students will continue to work on themes and they will learn to compare and contrast the ways in which themes are developed across texts.

In October, we will be shifting our focus onto non-fiction texts. Students will be learning various reading strategies such as monitoring for sense, word solving, making predictions, and summarizing to help them tackle these complex texts.

## Social Studies

Unit 1: Geography and Early and Societies of the Western Hemisphere

This unit provides students opportunities to explore various early civilizations of Canadian region, Inuit society, and early Americans. Students will learn how early people adapted to their environment and how they contributed to the development of the Western Hemisphere.

## Writing Workshop

For the month of September, we will launch the Writing Workshop by writing personal narratives. The focus of this first unit will be to help students be reflective of their own lives and write about what matters to them. Through this unit, the students are encouraged to be independent with their writing and to use strategies they've learned in previous years.

In October, students will continue to draft their personal narratives, in addition to expanding their repertoire of strategies and working with independence. Students will be challenging themselves by going through the writing process (drafting, revising, editing, and publishing) with strong story structure.

Please encourage your child to add various entries into his/her Writer's Notebook.

## Math

### Topic 1- Understand Place Value

Students will learn about place value- the idea that the value of a digit depends on the place in a number- for whole numbers to hundred millions and decimals to thousandths. Students will also learn that a digit in any place has 10 times the value it would have in the place to its right and  $\frac{1}{10}$  to the value it would have in the place to its left.

### Topic 2-Add and Subtract Decimals to Hundredths

Students will develop proficiency with adding and subtracting decimals. These skills will enable your child to solve mathematical and real-world problems efficiently. These skills will also help your child estimate sums and differences in order to determine the reasonableness of solutions.

### Topic 3- Fluently Multiply Multi-Digit Whole Numbers

Students will learn to explain patterns in the number of zeros of the product when multiplying a number by powers of 10. Your child will also apply his or her understanding of place value to estimate products.

## Science

### Patterns of Earth and Sky

Students are asked to figure out and explain the significance of an illustrations on a recently discovered thousand-year-old artifact with a missing piece, the anchor phenomenon for the unit. Students observe and investigate patterns in the sky by day and by night with kinesthetic models, as well as using a digital simulation, and informational text. They learn that stars are all around us in space, develop an understanding of scale and distance in the universe, and discover how the spin and orbit of our planet causes us to observe daily and yearly patterns of stars. Students apply their understanding of why we see different stars at different times to explain what is shown on the artifact, and what might be on the missing piece.

### Reminders:

- Students are encouraged to bring water bottles to school.
- Please sign reading log and planner daily.
- Please send all forms and notices promptly.

9/10-9/11: Rosh Hashanah (school closed)

9/17: Meet the Teacher Night

9/19: Yom Kippur (schools closed)

10/8: Columbus Day Observed (schools closed)

10/11- PTA meeting 6:30pm

10/18- 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration 7pm

10/26- Halloween Dance

10/31- March of Dimes Costume Walk