

5th Grade

AUGUST 27,
2011

WANLESS
ELEMENTARY

FOCUS
STATEMENT: I AM
ABLE TO
UNDERSTAND
WHAT I READ
AND SHARE MY
OWN THOUGHTS



Our 5th Grade Classes

We are having a great first two weeks of 5th grade!

We are settling into our routines and we are doing a lot of learning!

With the first week of school already behind us, we have quickly settled into our routines. Your student is hard at work and is already learning new things every day.

At the end of every day, we take a few minutes to fill out planners. This planner is designed to let you know what your child has done throughout the day as well as what your child has for homework. Please take a few minutes each night to review the planner with your child. This will help

improve the communication between home and school.

In the upcoming weeks, we will be administering the DIBELS test to each child in our class. This test is designed to measure reading fluency and oral reading retell (what they can remember about what they read). Your child should be able to read 104 words per minute. By the end of the week, your child should be able to tell you what their DIBELS score was and whether or not they made their goal.

Also, your child needs to practice their multiplication and division facts at home each night. They were expected to now all of their multiplication and division facts coming into fifth grade. Please practice

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their facts with them every night until they know them! This will help them throughout the year as we begin to tackle tough math concepts.

Important Dates to Remember:



Sept. & Oct.

Sept. 3rd - No School = Labor Day

Sept. 6th - Wanless F.A.C.E. Meeting @ 6 p.m.

Sept 17th - 5th Grade Parent Night

Sept. 21st - No School - School Improvement Day

Sept. 28th - Grams with Grandparents

Oct. 12th - Breakfast with Dads

Oct. 16th - 5th Grade Parent Night

Oct. 18th - School Pictures

Oct. 19th - 2:30 Dismissal

Oct. 25th - 2:20 Dismissal

What We Are Learning:

Week of Aug. 27th - 31st

Reading:

This week we are discussing various reading strategies and are building reading skills. Next week we will begin our reading series

Math:

We are working on Topic 2 which focuses on adding and subtracting whole numbers and decimals.

Writing:

We will introduce all types of genre writing and focus on free writing this week, which allows students to write on a topic of their choice.

Did you know?

~ Wanless has received a fruits and vegetables grant that introduces a new fruit or vegetable to your child twice a week?

~ The Wanless F.A.C.E. meeting is next Thursday, September 6th at 6:00 p.m.?



Bailey and Jerterria pose for a picture before the school day begins.

Focus on Math

This week we are working on topic 2, which deals with the adding and subtracting of whole numbers and decimals. Each day, our math consists of four separate parts daily. Calendar Math is a piece that is done to enhance patterns, addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division skills, decimals, predictions, and working with money. We also do an activity that reviews multiplication and division facts. This time should be used as a time for students to review and strengthen their fact skills. IT IS NOT DESIGNED TO TEACH FACTS DURING THIS TIME! Students should be practicing their facts on a nightly basis to learn their facts. The majority of our math time is spent on a topic focus, such as adding and subtracting large numbers. During this time, students are given a problem and it is worked through, discussed, and the lesson of the day is taught. It is during this time that they watch a video on the concept that is taught that day. At the end of the lesson, students also play a math center activity to strengthen what they have learned. Your child should be able to explain to you what the focus of the lesson was for that day when you ask them in the evening. Also, the homework will directly relate to that daily math focus.

Focus on Language Arts

Next week we are beginning our 5th grade reading series. This series has six different themes, and the first theme contains stories about natural disasters. The first story is Earthquake Terror. This story is a realistic fiction story where two children are out camping with their parents when an earthquake strikes. The young boy in the story helps to protect his younger sister during their adventure.

Next week's reading strategy is making inferences and predictions. Students should be able to predict and make inferences about what the story will be about and happen based on what they have read so far. Be sure to ask your child about their predictions that they made during reading.

We will also be focusing on free writing this week. Free writing allows the students to write about whatever topic they choose. During the first ten days of school they generated a list of topics that they would like to write about.