

Fifth Grade Newsletter for the Week of February 26, 2024

Coming Events and Announcements

March 1st: Parent teacher conferences- No School.

March 5th: Field trip to North Campus for concert.

March 15th: Pi Day.

March 22nd: Westward Expansion Day

April 8th-12th: CMAS Testing.

Here's a look at the week ahead:

Spelling

We will enter List 18 and **test on the words of List 18 on Thursday**, February 29.

Math

We continue multiplying and dividing decimals with lessons 10-7 through 10-9 on Monday through Thursday.

History

The Mormons move west to Utah and the Texans fight a losing battle for independence from Mexico at the Alamo.

Science

We will be working on a project in class next week on how we can conserve our natural resources as well as continuing our discussion of National Parks.

Writing

We will begin a new unit on writing essays which compare and contrast different subjects.

Literature

The Secret Garden, by Frances Hodgson Burnett, chapters 16-19.

Geography

We are continuing our study of the states and capitals of U.S. by turning to the Midwest region. The next tests will cover the South (March 8), Northeast (April 5), and the All 50 states/capitals test will be on May 1st. Study early, study often.

Poetry/Recitation

Students will begin to memorize "The Poison Tree" by William Blake. This recitation will be due the week of March 18th.

Character Corner

Please see next page

Our character focus for the month of March is on the importance of exercising Critical Thinking. Critical thinking is a habit that must be practiced daily. The Foundation for Critical Thinking developed a short series of five ways of helping elementary-aged children learn to think better. Parents can teach these standards to their kids, and then interact with them in ways that reinforce the five standards.

- Invite them to **BE CLEAR** by asking for explanations and examples when they don't understand something. Let children know it is okay to be confused and to ask questions.
- Urge kids to **BE ACCURATE**, to check to see if something is true by researching the facts.
- Encourage children to **BE RELEVANT** by discussing other topics that are pertinent to the discussion or problem at hand. Help them stay on track by linking related and meaningful information to the question they are trying to answer or the topic they are learning about.
- Support your child's ability to **BE LOGICAL**. Help her see how things fit together. Ask how she came to her conclusions and whether her assumptions are correct.

