

Fifth Grade Newsletter for the week of October 30, 2023

Upcoming Events

November 10 – TCA Recitation of Gettysburg Address at Veterans Day assembly at North campus. Students should wear red, white, or navy polos.

November 17th – Explorer Day. Students will need a costume to dress up as their explorer as well as a prop, which should not be a weapon. The costumes do not need to be too elaborate and students can likely create a costume from clothing they already have at home.

November 20-24 – Thanksgiving Break

Here's a look at the week ahead:

Spelling

We will enter List 5 and test on the words of List 5 on Friday, November 3.

Math

Lesson 5-1 through 5-4 with a day to review the concepts we have covered up to this point in the year.

History

We will delve into the French explorers and begin our individual explorers' projects.

Science

We will be doing a nature study of the hemlock tree, continuing to study our plant cuttings, and discussing photosynthesis.

Writing

Our unit on writing from a single reference source will continue with a biographical essay about our assigned explorer.

Poetry Recitation

Here it is, the whole enchilada! Students should be studying and memorizing The Gettysburg Address **in its entirety**. Recitation of the entire speech will be due the week of November 6, and will be recited at the East assembly and North Veterans Day assembly on Friday, November 10. **Practice early, practice often!**

Literature

My Side of the Mountain, by Jean Craighead George. Chapters 11-13.

Please see next page.

Character Corner

The character trait for the month of November is Gratitude. Gratitude is a feeling that spontaneously emerges from within us. However, it is not simply an emotional response; it is also a choice we make. We can choose to be grateful, or we can choose to be ungrateful and take our gifts and blessings for granted. As a choice then, gratitude is an attitude or disposition. As writer Alexis de Tocqueville once described it, gratitude is “a habit of the heart.” Brother David Steindl-Rast, a Benedictine monk, reminds us that gratefulness is “the inner gesture of giving meaning to our life by receiving life as a gift.”



**When you rise in the morning, give thanks for
the light, for your life, for your strength.
Give thanks for your food and for the joy of
living. If you see no reason to give thanks,
the fault lies in yourself.**

- Tecumseh -