

CONTACT INFORMATION

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*My class website will be used daily both at home and at school.

2. NEWSLETTER

As a class we will be writing the weekly newsletter. Students will copy from the board as we discuss what all to include in each week's newsletter. It will include objectives learned in each subject area, upcoming events and tests, weekly successes, and individual or class goals. Occasionally I will be including my own note, so make sure to search for the newsletter each week in the Friday folder.

4. Classroom Economy

Students will apply for a classroom job and will have that job for the first and second quarter. They will be paid with our classroom money for completing this job! This is just one of the ways students are working on building responsibility! Additional money can be earned for completing extra work, helping others, or as simple as following the classroom rules; just to name a few. In class we will also be discussing ways that students may have to pay money to the bank. For example, this includes not completing homework, not following directions, using mean words, etc. Periodically students will get to spend the money on various things throughout the year. These times will be announced well in advance. I truly believes this helps prepare them for middle school. Time management and organization are not easy!

1. Homework

Your child's planner will be a very important resource. Students should seek out a parent in order to get his or her planner signed. A parent should only sign it after the student has finished all the assignments. I will continually stress that this is the students' responsibility, not the parents' nightly responsibility. ☺ If you need to double check nightly homework, you can check my website, under the homework tab.

Homework should take roughly 50 minutes each night. If your child is spending considerably more time, please contact me. The majority of evenings students will have math and English assignments, unless they finished during work time. There is also a weekly spelling test and a vocabulary test every two weeks. Occasionally students will also need to study for science, social studies or religion tests. Reading should be a key component as well. If students have little homework for the evening, MobyMax.com and additional reading is encouraged! Just remember, 50 minutes of homework each night.

Late Work: Students with missing homework will call home. Students will need to use their classroom money to pay \$40. They will then have one extra evening to finish the assignment. Repeated offenses will result in having to stay in at recess or after school. Parent contact will be made to arrange additional time. Students will learn how to manage their time in fifth grade, so they are prepared for middle school.



3. TECHNOLOGY

We are fortunate to have great technology in our classroom! Students will be using it ALL THE TIME! Students will record all their user names and passwords in their planners. Please feel free to log in at any time and check their work!



5. Curriculum

Students will cover so much this year that it is difficult to just name a few. Therefore, please read our weekly newsletter each week where we will tell you everything we are learning.

math

Students will take a pretest before each unit (ungraded). Based on the individual pretests, students that know the material being taught for the day will work on more challenging work independently, rather than being part of the lesson. Our daily lessons consist of four centers. Students will correct their work in class and will have the opportunity to redo any assignments before the test. I believe that practice should not be graded without the chance for a redo. Frequent quizzes and tests will be graded. Mobymax.com is encouraged at home! Reteaching group times will occur before and after tests to practice missed objectives.



Social Studies, Science, and Religion

Students will occasionally have homework in these subject areas. However, most of the work will be completed during school. Students will work in groups the majority of the time and will complete many group and individual projects throughout the year. Students will have some tests and will be given a study guide prior to the test. I tend to include many different types of assessment tools. Technology is used quite frequently during these subject areas.

English and Writing

Students will write ALL THE TIME! Students will learn to write personal narratives, historical fictions pieces using dialogue, tall tales, nonfiction articles, opinion pieces, book reviews, just to name a few. Students will publish many of the pieces using GoogleDocs. Students will also work on the parts or speech each day and will have a daily assignment and tests at the end of each chapter. Just like math, students will be able to redo daily assignments up until the chapter test. Students will grade their work in class each day. Every morning students work on editing a paragraph for grammar and spelling errors.

Reading

Reading will be broken into two blocks. The first block will allow students to read independently while recording their reactions, thoughts, predictions, etc. in their reading notebook. During this time I will be working with guided reading groups to improve individual nonfiction reading skills. The second block students will be reading novels and completing projects in literature groups, listening to read alouds and working on author's craft and comprehension skills.

GRADING SCALE

Most papers will show the number of points earned over the number of points possible. These will be averaged for the report cards. You are encouraged to check Infinite Campus frequently to keep updated on your child's progress. If a paper just has a check mark plus, it goes in as a 100%, just a check mark is recorded as a 90%, and a check minus is an 80%. Grades are averages of daily work, quizzes, tests, participation, completion, group work, projects, etc. I work to make sure there are many different forms of assessment to meet all the different learning styles in the classroom.



The grading scale is:

97-100%	A+
93-96%	A
90-92%	A-
87-89%	B+
83-86%	B
80-82%	B-
77-79%	C+
73-76%	C
70-72%	C-
67-69%	D+
63-66%	D
60-62%	D-
0-59%	F

Spelling and Vocabulary

A pretest is given each Monday. Students grade it themselves as a study tool for the week. Posttests will be given on Friday, or the last day of the week. Even on short weeks students will have a spelling test. Students will work with prefixes, suffixes, and Greek and Latin root words. Biweekly vocabulary tests will also focus on root words. Students will have two weeks to complete each vocabulary packet.

