

5th Grade News

December 10th

Important Dates

December 15th: Make Your Own Animal Due

December 15th: BRING A FLOWER FOR MRS. N's RETIREMENT

December 17th Winter Celebration- Afternoon Movie and Treats (students only)

December 20th-January 2nd: Winter Break

January 3rd: Return to School

January 7th: Unit 5 Math Assessment: Fractions and Decimal Number Sense

January 14th: Unit 5 Math Assessment Retakes

Surprise for Mrs. Notarantonio

Our beloved reading specialist Mrs. Notarantonio is retiring next week. The 5th grade team will be recognizing and congratulating her on her retirement by showering her with flowers.

The morning of December 15th, please send your child in with a flower. We will gather all of our flowers together, put them in a vase(s) and present them to her as a grade level. If you child would like to write a card wishing her well in her retirement, we will make sure she gets those as well.

THIS IS A SURPRISE SO....SHHHH

This Week's Technology Tip

Here is this week's [Technology Tips Newsletter](#).

Language Arts

The students enjoyed the poem, "December Geese". They practiced reading for fluency, with expression, and at a steady rate. The students also practiced presenting the poem to the whole group.

We continued to work with the story, "From Scratch". The students are finished with their rough drafts and participated in peer revision groups this week. The final draft of the story is due on or before next Thursday, 12/16.

Reading:

- 5.1 - Use effective communication skills in a variety of settings
- 5.5 - Read and demonstrate comprehension of fictional text
- 5.5a - Summarizing plot events using details from text
- 5.5e - Explain the resolution of conflict(s)
- 5.5j - Draw conclusions and make inferences with support from the text

Writing:

- 5.7e - Organize information to convey a central idea
- 5.7j - Use precise and descriptive vocabulary to create tone and voice
- 5.7k - Vary sentence structure by using transition words and prepositional phrases
- 5.7i - Write multi-paragraph compositions

Math

The focus of our next unit is on developing an understanding of the relationship between fractions and decimals using a variety of models. Students will work with fractions that are thirds, eighths, and also those that have denominators that are factors of 100 (2, 4, 5, 10, 20, 25, and 50). At the end of this unit, they should be able to compare and order fractions and decimals using benchmark fractions, such as 0, $\frac{1}{2}$, and 1. They will also round decimals through thousandths to the nearest whole number, tenth, or hundredth.

Lessons and activities based on the following topics:

Foundational Learning Standards:

- 4.3a** Read, write, represent, and identify decimals expressed through thousandths;
- 4.3b** Round decimals to the nearest whole number;
- 4.3** Compare and order decimals; and
- 4.3d** Given a model, write the decimal and fraction equivalents.*

Current Standards:

- 5.1** Given a decimal through thousandths, round to the nearest whole number, tenth, or hundredth.
- 5.2a** Represent and identify equivalencies among fractions and decimals, with and without models.

Science and Social Studies

Mr. Chanler is out on leave with limited access to email until after winter break. Should you have any questions or concerns please email Mrs. Johnson or Mrs. Phelps and we will do our best to find you an answer.

This unit focuses on an understanding of living systems.

- Students will investigate the characteristics common to various groups of living organisms as well as the general and specific classification of organisms based on their characteristics.
- Unit concepts build upon a basic understanding of living systems introduced at Grade 2 (the series of orderly changes plants and animals undergo as they mature and grow) and Grade 4 (basic plant anatomy and life processes).
- Students will also construct models to clarify explanations and demonstrate relationships.

Students will understand that:

Organisms are made up of one or more cells and can be grouped into categories according to distinguishing traits. These categories allow scientists to understand relationships among organisms.

Winter Celebration December 17th: Movie and Snacks



[5th Grade Movie a...](#)

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A Virtual Holiday Gift Shop Is Coming To Our School!



Dear Parents,

Our school is hosting a Virtual Holiday Gift Shop for our students and school families. This program makes it possible for your child to experience both the thrill of choosing gifts "secretly" and the "joy of giving" to their family members. All of this is done right in the comfort of your home.

We believe this program will help children learn about budgeting and decision-making. A large variety of gifts in several price ranges will be available for all shoppers. Imagine the fun they will have surprising a loved one with a gift they picked out and wrapped (gift bags included) "all by themselves"!

With your help, your child can log on to our school specific website, where they will be able to select their special gifts. They will need some assistance, mostly at check out.

You can approve the purchase and make payment by credit/debit card. Once approved, the order will be packed and shipped.



Our Shopping *Starts Today!*

Order by December 10th for Ship to School
Order by December 16th for Ship to Home

Follow These Steps To Shop:

1. Visit: StudentGiftShop.com
2. Shop Type (login): **Holiday**
3. Click the "Enter Here" Button on Door
4. Enter Password: **PENS2020**
5. Start Shopping!