



FIFTH GRADE

Friday, Nov 22, 2024

Dear American Academy Parents,

As we step into December, we find ourselves amidst the hustle and bustle of the holiday season. This month is filled with joy, festivities, and a little bit of winter chill! It's a wonderful time to reflect on all that we are grateful for. The changing of the seasons reminds us to appreciate the warmth of our community and the joy of learning together. With a new trimester upon us, we are excited to embark on fresh adventures and challenges!

Talent Show

Looking for any kid that would like to try out to be in our 3rd annual talent show. If your child has a talent they would like to share with the school follow the link below to show what you got!

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C094EA8AF22A0FEC43-53310080-talent>

Responsive Classroom

In Responsive classroom we have been talking about respect and being grateful. Please talk with your children about those two character traits as we head into a crazy time of year with testing, holidays and school. Also please check in with your child on their supplies to make sure they have enough to do their school work. One other thing that is mandatory that they have are headphones. We need them for testing so if your child does not have headphones please make sure they have them when they come back from Thanksgiving break.

Attendance Policy

Being in school is important, and it is extremely difficult to replicate the daily instruction of teachers, when your child is absent. *School starts each day at 8:05am and learning takes place up until 3:35 pm, so please know that when you pull your student early, they are losing out on valuable instruction time with their teacher and peers.* We know that students get sick and need to stay home some days, but we ask that, to the best of your ability, you schedule appointments and vacations around the school calendar. If your student is going to miss school, please be familiar with the attendance policy and the impact of make-up work.

Testing Dates

Middle of the year testing is here! This is an important time for our students to show what they have learned this year. Below are the dates for our testing:

<u>Date(s)</u>	<u>Subject/Test</u>
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12/2-12/4	Literacy Writing Benchmark
12/5-12/6	Math iReady
12/9 - 12/11	Literacy iReady
12/12 - 12/13	HMH Math Growth

It is essential that your student comes to school each day we are testing. We only have a few days to make up for missed tests, and we want every student to do their best!

Curriculum updates

Math-

Ms. Ericson: We wrapped up chapter 7, and are now skipping ahead to do some geometry in chapter 15. They will be learning how to classify triangles and quadrilaterals. After Thanksgiving break we are going to do an exciting project to enhance what they have learned that will help reinforce decimals and geometry and measuring!!

Ms. Hein: After the Thanksgiving break, we will break into the world of fractions. We will first start with adding and subtracting with unlike denominators and then move to multiplying and dividing. Below is the link to the parent letter with more information:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1anBJ-pcm2ygZv4F7ihDMS6G0oMDOMMTY/view?usp=sharing>

Mr. Anderson: This month we will be in the thick of math testing, but in the times when we are not testing we will be working on Chapter 9: Adding and Subtracting Fractions with Unlike Denominators. This chapter will focus on adding and subtracting fractions with unlike denominators, finding common denominators, and multiplying fractions. Please continue to work on these skills at home. I also wanted to take a moment to give props to our class, they have been absolute rockstars with geometry and volume!

Ms. Bambury & Ms. Mitchell: For the past week and a half we have been working on Chapter 15 (Identifying and Classifying Two-Dimensional and Three-Dimensional Figures). After Thanksgiving break we will begin Chapter 16, which is all about Volume. Once we finish these two geometry chapters, we will embark on the long journey through the land of fractions. PLEASE continue to practice mixed multiplication facts with your child so they can be fluent and fast. Also, every student in our class is required to complete one i-Ready lesson each week, and it will be counted as a homework grade.

Literacy- We started Unit 2 of CKLA Ancient Civilizations. Below is the parent letter with an overview of what students will be learning.

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1B-aiUf4r8wla50lPO3jqhloc6e7QXj7J/view?usp=sharing>

History- We will be wrapping up our unit about "The Reformation" by designing our own cities, coming up with rules for our cities, and convincing the rest of the class why our city is the best one to live in. So far we have learned about Martin Luther and his "crazy accusations," Ulrich Zwingli and his "fight" with Luther, King Henry VIII, and John Calvin and his rules for Geneva. We will finish out our content for this unit with Reformation Scientists: Copernicus and Galileo. At the end of this unit we will have a group project; this will be a large grade and it will be important that we follow the directions that will be in Google Classroom in order to be successful with this assignment. Once we finish up this unit we will move into learning about "The Golden Age of England."

Science- We wrapped up our Space Systems unit at the end of the trimester and are now into our Matter unit, which coincides with STEM. Half the students will be with me and the other half will be with Melissa Jones for STEM, see below for information on what they will be doing! Half way through the trimester we will switch and the kids who were with her will come to me and my kids will go to her. This is great because we can really dive into the curriculum with the smaller class sizes! You should look forward to some fun conversations that they will have about the experiments we are doing!

STEM

Trimester 2, which starts on November 18th, means that it's time for STEM! 5th grade will be divided into 2 groups and each group will have a ½ trimester of STEM and ½ trimester of Science. The format is the same as it was last year. This year in STEM the students will be exploring a new robot. The LEGO Education group updated the EV3 that we have used for the last 10 years to a robot called Spike Prime. We named him the Rebel Bot. We will explore movement and sensors with this robot during our robotics unit. The students continue to code with scratch and will deepen their understanding of operators, functions and conditional statements in their coding. We will use some fun challenges to make this learning exciting and engaging. The dates for the first group will be November 18th-January 14th. The second group will be from January 15-February 21.

Specials

Here are the links to the special teacher's classes. Please open and view to see what your child is working on in Specials.

[MB Elementary Music News | Ms. Love](#)

[MB Elementary PE News | Ms. Bauer](#)

[MB Elementary Tech News | Mrs. Brown](#)

[MB Elementary Art News | Ms. Easton](#)

Sincerely Your 5th-grade team

Mr. Anderson

Ms. Bambury

Ms. Ericson

Ms. Hein

Ms. Mitchell

Upcoming Events

Dec 7	Skate City Holiday PJ Night
Dec 10	Spirit Night Panda Express
Dec 17	PTO Meeting Cafeteria
Dec 18	PTO Lunch appreciation
Dec 19	Talent Show
Dec 19	5th grade Winter party (possible field trip)
Dec 20- Jan 6	Winter Break

For more event dates, please visit the Event Calendar on www.gak8.org. For questions or concerns about an event date, please contact [Michele Quintana](#).