

Mrs. Montgomery 24-25 Weekly Updates

Welcome to Mrs. Montgomery's Class!

Below, you will find this year's weekly updates.

*You can select a heading on the side to
fast forward to the latest date or a past date.*

Thanks for keeping tabs on our classroom fun!

Week of August 8, 2025

Hello Families!

What a fantastic first couple days! Mrs. Daley and I are so excited about the adventures ahead with these kids in this class. What an incredible group of kids!

We had quite a bit of fun "Helping Harry" see the class better from towers that were created with cupcake liners, tin foil, and pipe cleaners. We also were "Saving Fred" the worm today whose boat had been capsized using only paper clips. Each of these activities helped us practice the scientific method and working in groups. I was so impressed with their ability to work in teams already.

Please make sure to check out the teacher connection page gallery on my page to see our fun pictures from this week.

Next we we start our regular schedule, lessons, and homework. You'll be able to find information on my Teacher Connection page as well as their agenda. Please remember to check the red folder each night as well.

Lastly, thanks to all who have turned in our classroom management paperwork, student handbook agreements, and agenda fees. Agenda fees can be paid on Skyward or \$7 cash/check sent in on Monday. Then we are able to release their agenda.

You are so appreciated. Please reach out if we can be of any assistance this year!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Montgomery

Week of August 12, 2025

We've been busy, busy! I've so enjoyed getting to know each of your kids these past few days, and I'm excited about the friendships, collaboration, and support I've seen the students have for each other even so early in the year.

Homework came home for the first time today. Most students were able to finish this in class. The entire week is given on Mondays (I forgot yesterday with so much going on...we will get the hang of this again). They are encouraged to work ahead if they know they have a busy night or two during the week, so there is less to do on a busy night. :) The homework will get more and more challenging over time, but right now, we're trying to review major concepts from last year during homework so we can hit the ground running in our 5th grade content.

Could you help us with an experiment? We have a dirty penny lab we'd like to complete in the next few days. We need 3 dirty/tarnished pennies per student. If you have more than 3, we'd love if you could send those! We're going to use the scientific method to try to figure out which solution cleans dirty pennies best.

Thank you sharing your kiddos with us during the day! Have a wonderful evening!

Week of August 15, 2025

What a great first full week of school!

Your students have worked so hard and are already connecting as friends. We're so glad each one is in this class! Today was the Dirty Penny Lab. I want to thank each of you that let us raid your coin jars and piggy banks to make this happen. It was a lot of fun and the kids were amazed at how the vinegar and salt cleaned up that copper oxidation so well. Beware! Some kids were already scheming about what other items from the pantry might clean pennies at home. 😊

Photos of our various labs and celebrations this week and last are on my [teacher connection page](#). Please [bookmark this page](#) to stay up to the date with all the fun going on in this classroom.

Week of August 25, 2025

It's a great day to be a Buffalo! We've had a very productive Monday! Here are a few reminders for this week.

FAST ELA testing is tomorrow morning. This will give a baseline for students. They should get some good rest tonight and a hearty breakfast in the morning. The cafeteria provides breakfast, so if needed, bring them a little early and take advantage of that great resource!

Picture Day is Thursday, August 28th. Students still need to wear their uniforms and tennis shoes for pictures. If you are gone that day, there will be a make up day announced later.

Other important details:

Homework for the Week of 8/25/25:

Monday: Place Value and Decimal Chapter Homework - #1-6 (We will correct and discuss

Tuesday. Make sure to complete!)

Tuesday: Place Value and Decimal Chapter Homework - #7-12 (We will correct and

discuss Wednesday. Make sure to complete!)

Wednesday/Thursday: 3s and 6s Multiplication Facts (due Friday)

Work ahead if you know a busy night is coming up! 😊

Assessments for the week of 8/25/25:

Monday: Science Test - Nature of Science

Tuesday: ELA PM1 FAST Testing

Friday:

Homework Quiz - Multiplication 3s and 6s

Spiral Review Quiz - Review concepts

Week of September 2, 2025

I hope you all had a terrific Labor Day Weekend!

Please help students practice multiplication facts: 5s, 10s, 3s, and 6s this week. They have some helpful resources in their homework binder (times tales books, homework worksheet).

Open House is Wednesday from 6:00-7:30 pm. Please join us in Mrs. Daley's room to hear more about your child's day-to-day activities and learning.

FAST ELA testing is Thursday morning. This will give a baseline for students. They should get some good rest Wednesday night and a hearty breakfast in the morning. The cafeteria provides breakfast, so if needed, bring them a little early and take advantage of that great resource!

Founder's Day Volunteers are needed to run the booth. [Please sign up with the link](#) for a task / job you would be willing to do. We appreciate you!

Have a great week!

Mrs. Montgomery

Week of September 15, 2025

First, I want to say a HUGE thank you to all of you who have donated to our Founder's Day and Auction Basket events, and to those who volunteered at our Founder's Day booth. The booth was so much fun all thanks to you! If you would like to donate a book or too to our auction basket, [you can find the list here](#). We need the bookshelf most at this point, if anyone is willing to donate. Every little bit helps! We have a great collection of books coming in! 😊

Next, we are studying some great topics right now and kids are confident! I love seeing that. In math, we're working on

multi-digit multiplication, which includes multiplying with decimals, and multiplying up to 4 digit by 3 digit whole numbers.

Your students have a quiz on the 11s facts this Friday. They also have their normal Morning Work to complete that is taken for a quiz grade. They should be all finished with their Monday through Thursday by Friday morning so they can earn an extra 10 points on their Friday quiz. Finally, they are taking a short science test regarding the Structure of Living Things. The most important thing they can study for this in the Living Things Vocabulary in their Interactive Science Journals (composition notebook) in their backpacks. We have been studying so hard and they are making incredible connections between plant structures and human/animal organs and systems. I'm so proud of them!

Does your student need extra help or practice? Don't miss the EXTRA HELP section of my [Teacher Connection Page](#). It's also a fun place to see new picture of what the kids have been up to in class.

Have a wonderful evening!

Mrs. Montgomery

Week of September 23, 2025

Hey Buffalo Families!

We are wrapping up our Multiplication unit this Wednesday and Thursday with an assessment. In their red homework folders, you will find a Multiplication Test Study Guide. These are the types of problems they may see on tomorrow's assessment. I've let students know not to worry about 12s facts tonight - we will study them tomorrow and Thursday night.

Here's the overview for this week!

Homework:

- 12s facts: M-Th (don't worry about it tonight - focus on multiplication)
- Multiplication Test Study Guide: Tuesday

Assessments:

- Multiplication Unit Test: Wed/Thurs
- 12s facts: Friday
- Spiral Review Quiz: Friday

Buffalo Basket Auction - PI Opportunity

If you would like to donate a book or too to our auction basket, [you can find the list here](#).

I'm really proud of how hard these kids are working through some tough work!

Have a terrific rest of your week!

Erika Montgomery

Week of September 29, 2025

Hi Families!

We had a productive Monday! We are currently reviewing our quarter 1 vocabulary in science and continuing our study of interdependence (food webs, etc). We have been working on adding and subtracting decimals the last couple weeks alongside our multiplication unit. We are going to review a little more tomorrow and take a short assessment on adding and subtracting decimals on Wednesday. Students are well prepared for this and should have a wonderful outcome!

If your students are needing extra practice in math, please check out my Extra Help section on my [Teacher Connection](#) page for some resources! :)

Here is our homework for the week:

Monday-Thursday: Mixed multiplication facts 0-12

Thursday: Finish anything that is not complete on the week's morning work

Assessments for this week:

Wednesday:

-Adding and subtracting decimals

Friday:

-Spiral Review Morning Work Quiz (always open note)

-Mixed Facts Multiplication 0-12 Quiz

It's a privilege to work with these kids each day. Thanks for sharing them with us! Have a wonderful evening!

Mrs. Montgomery

Week of October 6, 2025

Hi Families!

We are finishing up our first quarter this week! It's flown by and your students have learned so much. I'm really proud of them!

Homework this week:

M-Th: Round Numbers Review

M-T: Study Science Vocabulary from Quarter 1 (living things, nature of science, and human body in their science journal- it's all review topics!)

Assessments this week:

W: Quarter 1 Vocabulary Test - All review!

F: Round Numbers Quiz, Spiral Review Quiz

Here is a link to a [vocabulary review game](#) they can play as many times as they want to practice. I've also attached the lists of vocabulary in one document. They also have these lists in their science journals.

Book Fair

Our class is attending the book fair tomorrow (Tuesday). You can load their eWallet through Scholastic or send money with them if you'd like them to purchase any items.

Buffalo Basket Auction Update

Thank you so much for the outpouring of support for our classroom's Buffalo Basket - A Childhood Library! Our contribution is a cozy, reading nook bookshelf with so many wonderful childhood classics loaded up on the shelves. What a fantastic item for our school fundraiser. You all amaze us with your generosity! I will send pictures in my next update.

As We Mature - Helpful Hints for 5th Grade

This is that tough age where things can change in an instant. What I've found to be helpful for maintaining student confidence in the classroom are a few items tucked discreetly in an inner pocket of their backpack just in case.

For girls:

A few feminine napkins

Change of underwear

Deodorant

For boys:

Deodorant

Week of October 20, 2025

Hi Families!

First, I'm so grateful for two classes full of terrific kids, and that is because they are coming from incredible examples at home. When I got back to school today, they were so caring and concerned about me. I am okay! I had some minor medical issues crop up over the weekend that required some testing. I jokingly let them know, I am definitely doing well enough to keep the work coming for them. [insert whole class groan here- haha]

KENNEDY SPACE CENTER

I know there is a lot of conversation about our field trip to Kennedy Space Center so I want to share a few things here as we're all working together to pull off truly the field trip of a lifetime:

- 1) This is a really memorable trip. I have yet to meet a kid that doesn't still talk about this experience with a big smile on their face! Please talk with me if you have concerns and let's try to solve / alleviate those so your child can attend. They may play it off, but each of these kids are talking non-stop about this upcoming adventure.
- 2) Regarding Chaperones - I will be notifying chosen chaperones this evening as we just received final confirmation. I understand how disappointing it can be to not be drawn. We've been there many times in our own house! Thank you to all who volunteered. In our class, 15 parents responded to the call for chaperones.
- 3) Notary Permission Slips - Last Friday, new permission slips were sent out. I apologize for the inconvenience. The original permission slip that was given out at the meeting did not include the notary affirmation statement. This is required by law since we are just over the 100 miles from our school for this field trip. If you need help locating a notary, please let me know. Your bank or a local pack and ship location is typically able to help for no or low cost.

Please reach out with any questions. I would just ask that everyone remember we work hard to provide a very safe, memorable opportunity for everyone! I do not take field trips lightly and am on high alert from the time you hand me your precious little person until the time I hand them back. 😊

Homework:

M-Th: 0-12 Division Facts Review (Quiz on Friday)

Assessments:

Science - Interdependence Test on Wednesday - Students are WELL PREPARED for this. They have a study guide in their red folder to review for tonight. We will review again before the test tomorrow.

Math - Order of Operations and Writing Expressions Test on Thursday - Students have been practicing this for weeks. They are getting pretty good at these skills! We will be completing another practice/study guide tomorrow, which they will be able to use for review.

Math - Normal Spiral Review Classwork Quiz - Open Note - If students are not all finished with their spiral review on Thursday, this will be homework.

Week of October 27, 2025

Hi Families!

Lots of important info below, so we'll skip right to it! 😊

Animal Adaptation Projects DUE THIS WEDNESDAY

I'm copying the project instructions below my message just so everyone has an additional copy. Projects may be turned in Tuesday if they are ready. Our whole school gets to see these projects from all of our 5th graders. Teachers and students look forward to these displays every year. I know the kids will be so excited to share their creative work!

Kennedy Space Center

11/7 - The second installment of \$50 is due.

11/21 - The third and final installment of \$50 is due. Notarized PERMISSION SLIPS are also DUE this day.

Assessments

Facts Timed Quiz

Spiral Review Quiz (Open Notes as Usual)

Homework

This week is a little different. Please practice the following facts. Students should have these memorized and be able to answer automatically. They will have a timed assessment on Friday. All of our students can do these, but many are still struggling with automaticity.

$$\begin{array}{l} 2 \times 2 = \\ 2 \times 3 = \\ 2 \times 4 = \\ 2 \times 5 = \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{l} 3 \times 3 = \\ 3 \times 4 = \\ 3 \times 5 = \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{l} 4 \times 4 = \\ 4 \times 5 = \\ 5 \times 5 = \end{array}$$

Week of October 27, 2025

Happy Halloween!

This upcoming week we have some great things ahead!

Today, in math, we started a pumpkin investigation. On Monday, we will get to study the mean, median, mode and range of the pumpkins from all eight 5th grade classrooms.

Monday, we will also review our 2-digit division in order to be ready for our test on Tuesday.

Wednesday, we begin adding and subtracting fractions.

In science, we are working on the Water Cycle and Weather Patterns. The students are very engaged with the material, and we have some fun activities coming up to study earth science.

The Animal Adaptation Projects were so successful! The students did so well presenting them in class and next week our whole school gets to see their project in the 5th grade Animal Adaptation Museum! I'll be loading some pictures on my Teacher Connection page next week, so be on the lookout!

Kennedy Space Center

Please make sure the NOTARIZED version of the permission slip is filled out and turned in.

We also need to have the second payment of \$50 by November 7th, and the third payment of \$50 by November 21st.

Chaperones, please make sure your fingerprinting is done asap as it takes time to process!

Veterans Day

If you are or have a veteran who would like to participate in our school veterans parade, please fill out the form in your students' red folder. We would love to have you or your loved one join us that day! We would also like to add your family's veterans to our Wall of Honor. Please send in a picture with the veteran's name, the student's name with their relation, and what branch of the military they served in.

Homework

- Yellow facts list (M-Th)

- 1-digit divisor division (M-Th)

Assessments

- 2-Digit Divisors - Unit Assessment (Tuesday)
- Yellow Facts Timed Quiz (Friday)
- 1-Digit Divisor Division (Friday)
- Spiral Review (Friday)

Yellow List Facts for This Week!

$$2 \times 9 =$$

$$2 \times 6 =$$

$$2 \times 7 =$$

$$2 \times 8 =$$

$$3 \times 9 =$$

$$3 \times 6 =$$

$$3 \times 7 =$$

$$3 \times 8 =$$

$$4 \times 9 =$$

$$4 \times 6 =$$

$$4 \times 7 =$$

$$4 \times 8 =$$

$$5 \times 9 =$$

$$5 \times 6 =$$

$$5 \times 7 =$$

$$5 \times 8 =$$