



# THE FIFTH GRADE TEAM

SRU Elementary School

October 2018

## Welcome to Fifth Grade!

Another school year is well underway. During the course of the year, your child will have every fifth grade teacher each day for a different core class. Our fifth grade team is working on building students academically, as well as behaviorally. We are holding the students to a high standard and working hard to grow in many areas. At home, please maintain a consistent homework routine, check agendas, reading logs, and math homework. Stay in contact with our team if an issue arises and we will be sure to take care of it. We look forward to working with you and your child for the remainder of the year. Thank you for your support.

*“The difference between ordinary and extraordinary is that little extra.”*

### Contact Infor-

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# MATH

It's hard to believe that it is October already. The first month of school flew by. Our students are off to a great start. In math, our students will be completing module one which covered place value concepts such as: reading and writing decimals to the thousandths various ways, understanding the relationship between adjacent place values, multiplying and dividing by powers of ten, rounding decimals to the nearest thousandths, and ordering and comparing decimals. Next week, we assess students progress in these areas with our first benchmark assessment covering skills taught in module 1.

The rest of October we will be focusing on module 2 concepts. These include addition and subtraction with decimals, multiplication and division of decimals, and the order of operations. We will continue to focus on fluency of basic facts using the programs Reflex Math and Xtra Math, which both can be accessed from home. Please encourage your child to take advantage of these programs at home each day. If your child masters these facts they will find other math concepts less challenging. Lastly, continue to look for nightly assignments containing previously taught skills.

Feel free to contact me with any concerns you may have. By working together, I'm confident we can make great strides in your child academic performance in mathematics this year.



## News and Notes

**Halloween Celebration:** This year's Halloween celebration will look a little different than in the past. Our Halloween celebration will be held in the afternoon of October 31. Students may bring a costume to change in to (it is not required), but we will not have our normal Halloween parade. Instead, the fourth and fifth grade hallway will decorate the floor, each teacher will provide a specific activity as each group of students rotate around the hall, and then we will have donuts and juice.

Students will have time to change into their costumes after lunch, so they can still enjoy that part of the holiday. However, we will stay in our hall, and keep the students moving through hands on activities that may tie to the curriculum and to the holiday. A letter about the day's events will be included with the newsletter. If you have any further questions, please contact your child's teacher.

**Power School:** Parents, because we have so many students, if you see your child struggling or even if you are wondering about their progress check Power School to see how they are doing. A major area of concern is homework completion. Please make sure your child is getting all of their homework completed. If their grade is low and you have a concern, please contact your child's homeroom teacher and he can get a meeting setup with you and the team.

**REMIND:** All fifth grade teachers have setup "Remind" accounts. If you haven't signed up for each class, please do so as soon as possible. As a fifth grade team, we are trying to reach out to share information about assignments, assessments, behavior, and accomplishments. Remind is a great tool to keep parents informed. If you have any questions on the setup or need the class code, please let your child's teacher know.

# ELA

Fifth grade ELA is still working their way through Unit 1: *Text Structure*. We are learning about the different ways authors build or create text. Once introduced, students read and analyze text, generate their own organizers (depending on the type of text structure), fill them in, and explain their reasoning.



# WRITING

**WRITING:** Thus far in writing, we've covered the writing process, some writing traits, informational writing, and TDA Writing.

The students recently stopped working on their autobiography informational writing. During this assignment, students learned an intro to lead writing, utilizing transitions, and organization of text. This assignment can continue to be revised and worked on throughout the course of the year. Currently, we are looking at Text Dependent Analysis writing or TDA Writing.

Next, students will begin the process of looking at narrative or creative story writing focusing on characters, setting, events, problem, and solution. Students will learn more about writing leads, using story transitions, and writing figurative language.

**GRAMMAR:** Through their writing, students have learned about types of sentences (simple, compound, and complex) and conjunctions (coordinating, subordinating, and correlative). For the next writing assignment, we are going to write using strong word choice (figurative language, adjectives, and sensory details).

With each new assignment, students will continue using already covered skills to improve their writing.



### Upcoming Events:

#### October

- 10/3: Rural Health and Safety Day: Alparon Park
- 10/8: Progress Reports
- 10/10: STEM Night
- 10/22 - 10/26: Drug Prevention
- 10/31: Halloween Celebration

We are going to be starting Student of the Month and Character Awards. Next issue will display those students who received an award.