

Fifth Grade Newsletter

November 2009

Conferences

Conferences are of great value to us as classroom teachers. Thank you for the supportive role you take in your child's learning. Shared communication is one of the most significant ways we can help your child reach his/her potential.

Reading and Writing

Students should continue to read, read, read on a daily basis in order to complete a large volume and a great variety of books by the end of the trimester. Your 5th graders should record, record, record everything he/she is reading in their book log.

Parents, please provide a time for your son or daughter to discuss the literature they are reading. Check their book log. Pick out a nonfiction title from their list and find out what they've learned. Find their favorite fiction selection and ask them about the characters, the plot, or the theme. Snuggle up and read together!

Students are busy drafting their personal narratives in writing. They are learning to zoom in on small moments that describe and relive memories of special people, places, and objects in their life.

Math

Some students will be focusing on algebra after extending their understanding of multiplication, division, data, graphs, probability, and algebra. Other students will be extending their knowledge and understanding of Geometry concepts. Please start brushing up on those multiplication and division facts at home.

DARE Program

Officer Heather Berens of the Eagan Police Department will be working with our fifth graders this year. She will teach in each fifth grade classroom for approximately nine weeks, beginning the week of December 9th. The DARE lessons will focus on resisting pressure to use drugs, tobacco, and alcohol. At the conclusion of the eight weeks, students will write DARE essays sharing how they will utilize the ideas and strategies they have learned.

Human Growth and Development

The Human Growth and Development curriculum will be presented to fourth and fifth grade parents and students on Thursday, November 5 at 7:00 p.m. here at Woodland. All are welcome and encouraged to attend.

Harvest Party

This year because of our parent teacher conference schedule our fall celebrations will take place on Friday, Nov. 6. There will be no parade or costumes this year. A big thank you goes out to all our party planners in advance! We appreciate your time and willingness to share your talents with us to organize activities that the students enjoy!

The Times We Live In

In closing, we live in a time where the face of hunger, homelessness, and struggle is changing in our community, Dakota County and around the country. Woodland families have a long tradition of being very thoughtful and generous to teachers at holiday time, and for that we have been eternally blessed and grateful. This year we would love it if you and your children would continue to remember us with your wonderful cards, letters, and family photos. If you wish, please consider giving to your favorite charity in your child's or our names and share that special story of giving with us, rather than purchasing a gift for us. We would feel deeply honored to be part of anything that you do to help other families in need. Thank you!

Mark Your Calendars

October

Parent Teacher Conferences 4-8 pm 10/28
Parent Teacher Conferences 8-8pm 10/29 No school
No School 10/30

November

General Elections 11/3
Picture Retake Day 11/5
Human Growth and Development Presentation at Woodland 11/5 @ 7 PM
Harvest Party 11/6 (no costumes or parade)
Pajama Day 11/13
Children's Book Week 16-20
Culver's Night 11/24
Fall Break No School 11/26-27
Barnes and Noble Fundraiser 11/28-29