

Fifth Grade September Newsletter

Upcoming Activities

- 9/20 MAP-R
- 9/26 No School
- 9/28 MAP-M
- 9/30 Early Release Day

Classroom Happenings

- Mr. Elie's specials schedule:
 - Tuesday - Music
 - Wednesday - Media
 - Thursday - Art
 - Friday - P.E.
- Ms. Lundy's specials schedule:
 - Tuesday - P.E.
 - Wednesday - Art
 - Thursday - Music
 - Friday - Media
- Students can bring in a nut free snack to be eaten during the day. Lunch will be at 12:25 this year.
- Instrumental music will be on Thursdays this year.
- [September Lunch Menu](#)
- [MCPS Child Abuse and Neglect Online Training for Volunteers](#)

Educational Resources

- [Khan Academy](#) - Free math tutorials that aligns with MCPS curriculum.
- [Newsela](#) - Free website with leveled, kid friendly non-fiction articles. Includes a comprehension quiz. Great resource for reluctant readers at home.
- [Questions for Students to Promote Thinking](#) - This link includes 50 questions that will help promote critical thinking in students. Helpful to use during homework, reading, or discussions about what is being learned throughout the day.

Contacts

[Kyle R. Elie@mcpsmd.org](mailto:Kyle_R_Elie@mcpsmd.org)

[Brooke C Lundy2@mcpsmd.org](mailto:Brooke_C_Lundy2@mcpsmd.org)

September Instructional Focus

Reading	Students explore relationships through the themes of fitting in, compassion, and compromise by reading several Junior Great Books Series 5 literature selections, a Nonfiction Inquiry text, and texts associated with the social studies topic of the American Revolution. Close reading, use of shared inquiry, and engagement in interdisciplinary lessons help students analyze, synthesize, and comprehend more deeply.
Writing	Students write narrative and informational pieces in Lucy Calkins Units of Study in Writing: Narrative Craft and Writing Feature Articles of Personal Interest. Students build upon the skills they learned in fourth grade to further their development of narrative compositions and apply the elements of narrative writing to a feature article. Students also engage in extended writing projects and opinion written responses to reading throughout the unit.
Math	Students will be learning the standard algorithm and comparing it to the partial products method learned in 4th grade. We will reinforce place value concepts along with estimation strategies. In addition, students will explore volume and the relationship to multiplication. Finally, we will look at numerical expressions with parentheses, brackets and braces.
Compacted Math	Students will review multiplying fractions by a whole number and eventually fractions by fractions. We will first work with models before proceeding with abstract work. In addition, we will connect these math strategies to the real world.
Social Studies	The first marking period of Grade 5 continues this sequence through study of economic systems, political policies, and roles and viewpoints of individuals and groups during the American Revolutionary War period. Students develop their skills in collaboration and flexibility by gathering information from multiple and diverse perspectives and considering new ideas as they develop understandings of the American Revolutionary War historical period.
Science	Students will observe the phenomenon of runoff in the Chesapeake Bay watershed, and evaluate current resources on the state of the Bay to identify interactions among Earth systems. They will construct a model watershed and use it to make observations of the effects of runoff water. They will then prepare for an investigation of schoolyard runoff, and develop a map of their schoolyard that includes natural and human-made physical features.
Health	Students will focus on communication (both verbal and nonverbal) and collaborative work. In addition, we will continue with mindful strategies introduced last year.