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The 5th Grade Team

May 2018

Spring is here. As we enjoy the nice weather, we are preparing for the upcoming NYS math exam and all of the skills and knowledge left to learn. It is important that our scholars continue working hard, both at school and at home.



Important Events:

NYS MATH EXAM: May 1st and May 2nd
Information about field trips will be sent home this month

S.H.A.R.E:

We ask that you continue to reinforce these ideas below at home and while your children are using social media:

Self Respect · Hard Work - Advocacy - Resilience - Empathy

Academics:

ELA & Social Studies: We will continue our reading and writing units titled “Reading in the Content Areas” and “The Lens of History”. Scholars have been practicing skills such as note-taking, main idea work, synthesis, analysis, and critique in order to determine the main idea, summarize texts, and determine the meaning of unfamiliar vocabulary. The “Lens of History” writing unit will support students’ writing of informational texts within a content area study, in this case a social studies unit on Westward Expansion or the Civil Rights Era.

Science: We are finishing our study on “Changes to the Earth’s Surface”. After our current unit, scholars will begin to study biodiversity, the variety of living organisms and the ecosystems they live in.

Math: We are day(s) away from the NYS Math Exam and students have been diligently working to prepare. Parents/Guardians can play an important role in helping their children do well in school and to prepare for these tests. Here are some things you can do:

- Talk with your child’s teacher.

Getting to know your child's teacher is an excellent way to stay informed about your child's performance at school.

Be supportive throughout the year.

Make sure your child comes to school ready to learn, attends school regularly, and completes all homework assignments. Ask your child about his or her performance in school and be generous with praise.

- Encourage good work habits.

You can help your child learn good work habits at home and at school. Explain the importance of carefully following directions, avoiding careless errors, and checking work to make sure it's done correctly.

- Present a positive attitude toward the tests.

Let your child know that you have confidence in his or her abilities. Explain that some of the test questions may be difficult and that it does not matter if other students finish earlier. Let your child know it is okay to proceed at his or her own pace.

- Be sure your child is physically prepared on the day of the test.

Taking a test requires a student's full attention, so your child should have a good night's sleep before the test. Make sure your child has a healthy dinner the night before the test, a healthy breakfast the morning of the test, and a nutritious lunch.