

What's going on in 5th Grade

News from Humanities (ELA and Social Studies)

In Social Studies students are experiencing what it was like to live in the 1600's by participating in a Mayflower simulation. Students are reliving the life of the Pilgrims and have established their own colonies where they are building homes, making laws, and problem solving. In this simulation, students are also reading non-fiction material and drawing conclusions about the Pilgrims based on what they have read.

In Reading, students are continuing to read non-fiction text and articles. We are focusing on finding the main idea and supporting details within the articles. Students are also given the opportunity to share their thinking.

News from STEM (Math and Science)

We just wrapped up our multiplication unit. However, we are still urging students to practice their basic multiplication facts as these will be revisited in other units.

We are currently working in the division unit. We are discussing the meaning of division and how that relates to multiplication. We are also working with topics like divisibility, estimation using compatible numbers for division, and long division with whole numbers and decimals.

As with every unit we are stressing to students that they need to be accurate with their work, take their time, and check their work. We have recently discussed these expectations with students and created some classroom resources for what acceptable work is. We are hoping that all students are putting forth their best efforts in all academic subjects!

Our next unit in math is always an exciting one for students; we will be working with probability.

In science we are soon finishing up our Space and Beyond unit. Students are currently working on various projects involving space concepts. We are also relating math and science through an investigation with large numbers and space travel.

As we finish up this science unit we will be preparing students for the unit assessment. There will be study guides and resources that will be coming home with students. No date has been set for the assessment but we would like to complete it before the Winter break.

For your information...

In January, 5th graders will begin working with a group of people, known as the BTU crew, and learning about energy efficiency. The lessons will occur every Thursday for 6 weeks and the children will be looking specifically at how Winfield Elementary can conserve energy. The lessons connect with all areas, Humanities and STEM. Students will be expected to gather and organize data, a math concept, while evaluating the usage of energy, a science concept. In addition, students will be required to complete writing tasks, thus connecting the lessons to ELA. We wanted to make the parents aware so that when your child comes home and tells you about his or her day, you are aware of this special opportunity.