Spring Semester is in Full Swing!

BE "IN THE KNOW" OF ALL 5TH GRADE HAPPENINGS, EVENTS AND NEWS

February will be another busy month with Valentine’s Day, Presidents’ Day weekend, and all the learning of course! Second semester is rolling along with several events in sight, so be sure to check calendars and agendas frequently.

Regarding Valentine’s Day, Fifth Grade will be exchanging Valentines in classrooms during the day on Thursday, February 14th. Teachers will have a snack with the students while the exchange takes place. There will not be Valentine’s Day class parties. Thank you for your understanding.

Our second PBL unit, Shake, Rattle, and Roll is underway! Our students are learning about how constructive and destructive forces not only shape our earth, but provide challenges for human beings as we react to them or plan for them.

We are well underway with our plans for the overnight trip to Rock Eagle on May 7th-8th. Thank you if you’ve already sent your first payment. Please continue to look for other updating information regarding this trip as we prepare for it.

Be aware that two (2) behavior related N’s, or one (1) behavior related U on report cards and conduct folders, or a behavior related office referral WITH consequences, within the nine weeks prior to the event, may result in the loss of field trip privileges and may affect students’ ability to participate in other activities. If your child falls under any of these categories during the fourth quarter, he/she may forfeit the ability to attend the Rock Eagle field trip. We thank you as you continue to support our lessons of respect and responsibility.

We are trying to help students learn that being a good student takes effort and EVERY child must take initiative and participate in their own learning. Our students are beginning to realize the positive consequences of working hard and becoming life-long learners. Take time to discuss your child’s grades with him or her and stress the importance of consistently doing their best on all school assignments.

With Atlanta’s fluctuating weather, we’d like to remind you to be sure students are properly dressed. Chilly mornings turn into warm afternoons, and 5th graders have recess every day from 1:45-2:15pm. Layers are the best option for students to be prepared. Keep in mind Creek View’s dress code when it comes to footwear, shorts, and torn clothing. Also, to help locate owners of misplaced items, label all jackets and coats with your child’s name.

As we go through the second semester, please keep in mind that information concerning our overnight field trip, the transition to middle school, and end-of-year festivities will be forwarded to you via The Scoop and other Friday flyers. Please be sure to read everything carefully. Many things have a quick turn-around deadline.

As always, do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions, concerns or compliments.

Your 5th Grade Team: Helaine Becker, Nicole Biglow, Steve Johnson, Christi Aysh, Tony Rudolph, Gabrielle Williams and Alison Snow

DON’T MISS THESE FEBRUARY/ MARCH EVENTS

Feb. 1- Spirit Day; first Rock Eagle payment due; PTA’s Books and Bingo Event
Feb. 8- Payment due for Coach Practice Books
Feb. 14- Valentine’s Day Exchange; PBL Showcase 1:00 pm
Feb 15 - 18- President’s Day Holiday- no school
Feb 22 – Progress Skills Checklists go home
March 7- Visit to Webb Bridge Middle School
SOCIAL STUDIES

Our next unit in social studies will involve studying events leading up to and during World War II. We will discuss German and Japanese aggression on their respective continents, the involvement of the United States in the war key events in both Europe and the Pacific, and figures such as Roosevelt, Stalin, Churchill, Hirohito, Truman, Mussolini and Hitler. We will again discuss the significant roles that women and African-Americans played in the war effort, including “Rosie the Riveter” and the Tuskegee Airmen. As always, our classroom discussions will also focus on the impact of war at home including rationing, advances in technology, and the effects on the U.S. economy.

SCIENCE/HEALTH

We are in the process completing the unit Constructive and Destructive Forces. For this unit, students will be working in groups to develop and create an emergency response plan, preparedness plan, or survival kit to aid with disaster relief necessitated by earthquakes, volcanoes and other natural phenomena (flooding, beach erosion, etc.). This project will include activities in all content areas and incorporate collaboration as the focus skills. Student groups will have choice and voice in the process and product of their project, and the students will be sharing their research and information through written and oral presentations during our PBL Day on Thursday, February 14th.

LANGUAGE ARTS

Prioritized standards for the month of February are literary. Students will be identifying literary elements in novels, poems, drama, and short stories. In addition to regular homework, we suggest that your child read for at least 30 minutes per night. We will continue to focus on informational reading and writing. Students will read a variety of genres including: narrative, autobiographical and informational texts. Students will begin to form opinions based on the information given and use those opinions to write their own informational and persuasive essays.

6th grade students will continue vocabulary development considering word origins (Greek/ Latin roots and allusions). They are beginning a novel study related to World War 2. There are also selections of non-fiction. Comparing texts on the same topics is a focus. The writing genres include argument, persuasion, and informational works.

All students should be utilizing I-Ready Reading for at least 45 minutes per week. Students have tracking sheets that are to be filled out and turned in to the teachers.

MATH

A quick recall of multiplication and division facts aids in working through more difficult processes, so please continue to practice with your child. Students check their speed and accuracy regularly.

On-Level math students are working on Unit 4: Adding, Subtracting, Multiplying, and Dividing Fractions. Students will...
- engage in standard clusters to make sense of, and compute with fractions in ways that build on their own understandings of fractions.
- use equivalent fractions as a strategy to add and subtract fractions.
- apply and extend previous understandings of multiplication and division to multiply and divide fractions.

**Advanced level math students** are working on Sixth Grade/Unit 1. In this unit, they will expand their understanding of factors and multiples. They will also be working on the distributive property. Lastly, students will demonstrate fluency for all operations (add, subtract, multiply, and divide) for fractions and decimals.

After finishing the study of ratios next week, **accelerated math students** will begin looking at integer concepts including adding, subtracting, multiplying and dividing, along with expressions and equations. Students will be learning to write and solve one and two step algebraic expressions, equations and inequalities using addition, subtraction, multiplication and division of integers. Additionally, students will be graphing equations in the form of y=kx.

Students should be using I-Ready Math for practice at home 45 minutes per week. Students access the program via Launchpad.

**Special Areas Newsletter – This month is filled with helpful information.**

We strongly encourage you to check out the Special Areas Newsletter (https://www.smore.com/951cs) to learn more about how art has been integrating technology and about our class’ current work in clay. The music department also has details about the exciting musicals coming up at both WBMS and CVES. They also share more about our current music unit which emphasizes expression and movement. Due to increased circulation in our Media Center, volunteers are needed to keep books on the shelves. A link to the sign up genius and news on how students are learning coding during their Media rotation are included. PE also has ideas for promoting a growth mindset that aids students in staying motivated.

**Growth Mindset – Grit**

As we continue to work with students to build their growth mindsets, we will spend time talking about the concept of “grit”. Students who demonstrate grit set goals for themselves and keep working toward accomplishing their goals even when they face obstacles. As you can imagine, teaching students of all ages Angela Duckworth, who is the premier researcher on the topic, shares that “grit is living life like it’s a marathon, not a sprint.” To see, Ms. Duckworth’s TED talk, which is the most-viewed of all time, visit here: https://www.ted.com/talks/angela_lee_duckworth_grit_the_power_of_passion_and_perseverance.

If you’d like to assess your own level of grit, check out the grit scale found here: https://angeladuckworth.com/grit-scale/.

**Milestones Preparation:** Your child will take the Georgia Milestones in April from the 15th-26th. A flyer was sent last Friday for the purchase of review materials, *The Georgia Coach Book*. Contact our CST, Ms. Gower for more information.