

May 15, 2009

5H News

Welcome Back!

Welcome back into the swing of things for all 5H students and families! Having students out of the classroom for two weeks due to vacation and Thompson Island made for a difficult transition back to our regular routine for children. As I have emphasized to students, we still have several curriculum units and great projects we are working on in 5H. Many students are coming to school quite exhausted from evening activities and I am emphasizing to students to still get to bed on time so that they are able to participate fully in all of our school activities and give their best effort. I know the weather is beautiful and the end of elementary school is in sight for

kids, so I thank you so much for your assistance in this regard!

Science

Grade 5 will be studying scale and magnification along with microscopes. Students will learn how to use a microscope, identify the parts of plant and animal cells. We will be researching and writing about one-celled organisms. Under the microscope we will examine seeds, onion cells, elodea leaves and other found objects. Lastly, we will be looking at amoeba, paramecium, euglena, volvox and vinegar eels.

Puberty and Development

Our final science unit will begin in June. All grade 5 classes across Wellesley use the same curriculum. The three classes here at Hunnewell will be coordinating days and times when we teach specific lessons. In June those dates will be shared with you. There is discussion homework where children need to speak with an adult at home. We don't need the answers to the interview questions returned to us, just a signature or note indicating that the homework was completed. This unit provides an opening for discussions at home that are invaluable as you are the guideposts and greatest influence for your children's opinions and values. On our Announcements page are several book titles and websites for parents. As always, please let me know if you have any questions.

Upcoming Dates

May 15	Ms. Vachani's last day
May 18	Concert 8:45AM
May 18	Microscopes begins
May 18-29	China podcast recording
May 20	MCAS
June 1	Men Read at Hunnewell
June 10	Field Day 10:45AM
June 11	Field Trip Peabody Essex Museum
June 15	5 th grade celebration 6:30PM
June 23	Clap Out 11:45AM

5H

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Mathematics

Math

5H is completing a unit on growth patterns and looking at expressing patterns and rules about growth using equations. Our next math unit is a data analysis unit. In addition, 5H will extend our study of measurement by creating objects for the world of Brobdignag from Gulliver's Travels. Students will read a portion of

Gulliver's Travels, take measurements from the Brob world, calculate a scale in relation to our world, and then create everyday objects for Brob residents. As an extension, some students will be calculating volume of objects in the Brob world.

5H China Podcast

5H students will be creating a podcast on an area of expertise about China. Each student will be assigned a topic to research and create an individual podcast.

Part I Research – April 27 – May 1

You will research important facts, statistics, details and background about your topic. All notes should be in your SS journal. Generate questions about your topic

- *What is important? – people, places, time, dates*
- *Who would you interview? What would you ask?*
- *Facts? Stats? Did you know?*

Part II Writing – May 11 – 15th

You will be writing a script for your podcast. It will be narrated by you and include music clips, interviews and “special reports.”

Part III Recording - May 18 – 29th

POSSIBLE TOPICS

- *Great Wall*
- *Confucius*
- *Silk*
- *Silk Route*
- *Qin*
- *Han*
- *Zhou*
- *Shang*
- *Geography*
- *Art (bronze, jade, colors, symbols, calligraphy)*