

March 20, 2009

# 5H News

## 5H Updates

I wanted to just give a few quick highlights and updates. I am looking forward to meeting with all of you over the next two weeks to talk about student progress and the transition to Middle School. Please be sure to sign up for a conference if you have not already.

Ask your child about:

### Math

Comparing Decimals  
Decimal Games – *Smaller to Larger*,  
*Doubles Decimal Compare, Fill 2*  
Our next unit is division strategies.

### Language Arts

We completed book groups this week. Students will be studying Chinese Folktales starting March 30. We will be reading, analyzing and writing folktales. Our completed realistic fiction stories will be posted on our website soon!

## Upcoming Dates

March 20 Math Test - Decimals  
March 23 Musical Mosaic  
March 25 Chinese Artists Visit  
March 30, April 1,2 MCAS - ELA  
March 30 – No RRJs this week  
March 30 Chinese Folktales begins  
April 9 Folktale due  
April 10 No School  
April 27 Grace Lin Visit  
April 30 Visit Middle School

## Social Studies

We began our study of China this week. Ask your child about the maps we made and the reading s/he has done about China. Where are most of the crops grown? Where does most of the population live? Where are the mountainous regions? Ask him/her what s/he learned about the size of China's population and how long the civilization has been around.

## Open Circle

Ask your child about our class simulation regarding joining a conversation. What are ways people exclude or include someone in a conversation? What are ways to reach out to a new group member? (Some ideas brainstormed by 5H include: background information, body language, space, ask questions, looking for related topics.)

## Science

Students completed the Light unit last week. 5H students have also recorded their podcasts for the Light Unit. We have a few second takes that need to be recorded and next, I will be working on the most efficient way to share them with our 5H families.

## Conferences

On our website has a grid of appointment times for conferences. Please email me your first, second and third choices!

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