

The 5th Grade Times

Volume 1 — September 2009



Book Orders due Sept. 21st

Curriculum Update:

Our "September Project" is a "Flip-Chart" book report. The Guidelines are included in this week's folder.

- Math - Chapter 1: Place Value, Addition and Subtraction of Decimals.
- Reading - Natural Disasters/Reading Workshop
- Social Studies - Chapter 1: Early People in North America
- Religion - Creation, Chapter 1 - Sacraments
- Writing - Journaling, Sentence Structure, Brochures
- Science - Scientific Method, Weather and Earth's Structure

Planners

During the past week, students have begun working with their planners. At the end of each day, we review all of our assignments and due dates by recording them in the appropriate spaces in our weekly planners. We also go over reminders as well. Students are required to show you their planners each night and obtain your initials next to the date for that day. Planners are an important way for students to stay organized, and for me to communicate assignments to parents as well.

Welcome Back to School!



We are off to a wonderful start to the school year. I have enjoyed the first few days of school and I am excited about the future of this group of fifth graders! So far they have impressed me with their enthusiasm and kindness. I am sure we will do many wonderful things this year. So far every one has been doing well and working hard to welcome the new students to our school. I am already so proud of all of them!

I am very excited to meet with you at **Parent Information Night** (Wed., Sept. 16th, 7PM). At this open house, I will be sharing more information with you regarding our curriculum plans for the year. On that night I will also talk more about my classroom procedures and expectations for students. Meanwhile, here are a few important pieces of information that I would like to share with you.

Friday Folders and Agendas

This letter should have been delivered to you in your child's Friday Folder. Please look for this folder every Friday. The folder will contain two pockets. The first is for items to remain at home such as school-wide news and correspondence. The second pocket will contain items that need to be signed and

returned. Obtaining your signature is considered a homework assignment for your child and should be returned Monday morning. Please also to look at the instant alerts that are sent on Friday's. From this point on all newsletters will arrive to you via that method. This week I am sending it home both ways to ensure that everyone receives all of the important information.

Friday Special

As a way of rewarding our students for demonstrating responsibility with their homework, fifth grade at St. Ambrose will have what is called "Friday Special". During Friday Special we will team up with the other two fifth grade classes to enjoy 20 minutes of extra recess or free-choice time. Children who complete their homework on-time every day of the week and demonstrate good behavior will receive this special reward along with a "Happy Note" in their Friday folder. Students who have late or missing assignments will have a chance to work on them during this time. A slip indicating which assignments are late or missing will be included in the Friday Folder. It should be signed and returned with the assignments.

Schedule

Our class schedule will be

included in next week's folder. Please note that students will have specialists at least once per day, with Physical Education falling on Thursday and Fridays. Students will need clean gym uniforms and tennis shoes on these days. The specialist teachers are listed below in case you have questions regarding their classes.

Getting to Know You Packet

All of you received this packet (on yellow paper) at the Back to School Day. Please complete the packet with your child and return it by Friday, Sept. 18th. These packets help me get to know your child and help me understand your goals for your child this year. Thank you for your time with these!

Who's Who

Phy Ed - Jessica Sattler
Ext. 3025

Spanish - Miguel Irizarry
Ext. 3054

Art - Geri Padelford
Ext. 3055

Music - Daryl Erickson
Ext. 3077

Media Center - Tim Demco
Ext. 3053

Band - Josie Bertsch
Ext. 3063

September 9, 2009



Our students are so concerned about our celebrations and I would like to give you plenty of notice and information about them! In order to help make our celebrations go smoothly I have created a list of parties and the hosts and hostesses.

Holiday celebrations usually occur in the afternoon of the holiday or on the day before the break for the holiday. Generally we play a trivia or educational game during our party, have a treat and learn a little something about the reason for the celebration. The hosting team should plan the party about a week in advance (this is done in class). This is the responsibility of the students; **parents do not need to be at the party or help plan it.**

I suggest that each hosting team bring the following:

(There are 22 students and 1 teacher)

- 23 individually packaged beverages (ex: juice boxes, water bottles or caffeine free pop).
- Chips or Snack Mix – 3 large bags
- Treats - 23
- Cups, napkins, plates, etc.

Listed below are the parties and their team host/hostesses. I hope this will eliminate your being told what has to be brought to school at the last minute! **Thank you very much for your generosity!**

If you have any questions or concerns please contact me.

Mrs. Helmberger

Halloween	Ella, Jack S. and Addie
Thanksgiving	Lauren, Michael and Mattea
Christmas	Brooke, Colin W., Duncan and Christine
Valentine's Day	Collin K., Jenna and Sam
St. Patrick's Day	Andrew, Connor and Alex
Easter	Timmy, Meghan and Sydney
End of the Year!	Jack F., Gina and Nick



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
8:25-8:50 Prayer, pledge and morning work and meeting	8:25 – 8:50 Prayer, pledge and morning work and meeting	8:25 – 8:50 Prayer, pledge and morning work and meeting	8:25 – 8:50 Prayer, pledge and morning work and meeting	8:25 – 8:50 Prayer, pledge and morning work and meeting
8:50 – 9:30 Spanish	8:50 – 9:30 Computer Lab	8:50 – 9:30 Spanish	8:50 – 9:30 P.E.	8:50 -9:00 Scholastic News
9:30 – 9:40 Snack Break	9:30 – 10:10 Music	9:30 – 10:10 Art	9:30 – 10:10 Music	9:00 – 9:40 Library
9:40 – 10:15 Spelling and Grammar	10:15 – 11:00 Math	10:10 – 10:20 Snack Break	10:10 – 10:20 Snack Break	9:40 – 10:20 P.E.
10:15 – 11:00 Science / Social Studies	11:00 – 11:10 Snack Break	10:20 – 11:00 Science / Social Studies	10:20 – 11:00 Science / Social Studies	10:20 – 10:30 Snack Break
11:00 – 11:15 D.E.A.R.	11:10 – 12:00 Language Arts (EXTRA program to meet)	11:00 – 12:00 Language Arts	11:00 – 12:00 Language Arts	10:30 – 11:00 Science / Social Studies
11:15 – 12:00 Language Arts	12:05 - 12:25 Lunch	12:05 - 12:25 Lunch	12:05 - 12:25 Lunch	11:00 – 11:40 Language Arts
12:05 - 12:25 Lunch	12:25 – 12:50 Recess	12:25 – 12:50 Recess	12:25 – 12:50 Recess	11:40 – 12:00 Religion
12:25 – 12:50 Recess	12:50 – 1:00 Read Aloud	12:50 – 1:00 Read Aloud	12:50 – 1:00 Read Aloud	12:05 - 12:25 Lunch
12:50 – 1:00 Read Aloud	1:00 – 1:15 Journals	1:00 – 1:15 Handwriting	1:00 – 1:15 D.E.A.R.	12:25 – 12:50 Recess
1:00 – 1:15 Handwriting	1:00 – 1:30 Choir Practice for Mass Days	1:15 – 2:15 Math	1:15 – 2:15 Math	12:50 – 1:00 Read Aloud
1:15 – 2:15 Math	1:15 – 2:30 Mass or Teacher's Choice	2:15 – 2:40 Religion	2:15 – 2:45 Religion	1:00 – 1:15 Journals
2:15 – 2:50 Religion	2:30 – 2:50 Grammar and Spelling	2:40 – 2:50 Science World	2:50 – 3:05 Planner, class job & pack up	1:15 – 2:15 Math
2:50 – 3:05 Planner, class job & pack up	2:50 – 3:05 Planner, class job & pack up	2:50 – 3:05 Planner, class job & pack up	3:05 Dismiss	2:15 – 2:30 Friday Folders
3:05 Dismiss	3:05 Dismiss	3:05 Dismiss		2:30 – 2:50 Friday Special
				2:50 – 3:05 Planner, class job & pack up
				3:05 Dismiss

SAINT AMBROSE OF WOODBURY SCHOOL
2009/2010 CALENDAR

August 19	Kindergarten Picnic
August 27 & 28	New Staff Orientation
August 31	Full Staff In-service begins
September 3	Back to School Day
September 8	School Begins
October 6-8	MNSAA Accreditation Visit
October 9	Midquarter
October 12	Individual Picture Day
October 13	Class Picture Day
October 14	Magazine Sale Kick-off
October 15 & 16	No School- MEA
November 5	End of 1 st Quarter
November 6	No School- In-service
November 24	Evening Parent/Teacher Conferences
November 25	No School- Daytime Parent/Teacher Conferences
November 26 & 27	No School- Thanksgiving
December 7	No School- Staff Retreat
December 11	Midquarter
December 21	Christmas Program 7PM
December 23- January 1	No School- Christmas Break
January 18	No School- ML King Day
January 19	Science Fair
January 21	Kindergarten Information Night
January 22	End of 2 nd Quarter
January 25	No School
January 25- January 31	Catholic Schools Week
February 4	Evening Parent/Teacher Conferences
February 11	Evening Parent/Teacher Conferences
February 11-19	Scholastic Book Fair
February 15	No School- President's Day
February 16	No School
February 17-26	2010/2011 Registration
February 25	New Family Information Night
February 26	Midquarter
March 15	No School- Teacher In-service
March 26	End of 3 rd Quarter
March 29-April 1	<i>No Buses- parents drive</i>
April 2-9	No School- Spring Break
April 30	Midquarter
May 25	No School- Memorial Day
June 3	8 th grade graduation 7PM
June 10	Last Day of School- grades K-7
June 11	Teacher In-service

September Project
Book Report
Mini Flap Chart

Due date: Wednesday, September 30

For your September project you will be reading a fiction novel you have never read before and then writing and illustrating a mini flap chart.

What is a mini flap chart?

It is a way for students to demonstrate their understanding of story structure, to practice summarizing novels, and provide visual examples for Language Arts class.

Directions. (Don't worry if you don't understand these directions. We will make a sample with students in class.)

1. Fold a sheet of paper in half the hot dog way.
2. Fold the paper in half the other direction.
3. Repeat step two.
4. Unfold and you should have 8 sections. Now with your scissors cut three of the folds **just to the centerline.**
5. Close the flaps and have the fold on the top.
6. Label the flaps in this manner:
 - First Flap: Characters and Setting
 - Second Flap: Problem and Events
 - Third Flap: Solution
 - Fourth Flap: Opinion and Favorite Part
7. On the upper portion of each flap draw an illustration to represent a scene.
8. On the lower portion write and describe events from the story that fit that section of the novel.
9. Attach an index card to the uncut side so half the card is showing. Write the title, author and your name on this card.
10. Your mini flap chart is completed and ready to display for all to enjoy.

Star of the Week!

While your child is the Star, each day of the week will consist of an exciting event or activity to honor him or her and help us to get to know our classmate better!

*Monday: Poster and Pictures: Your child will be provided with a "Star of the Week" poster template to fill out. The poster and pictures will be shared by the "Star" at our morning meeting and then posted in our room for the week.

*Tuesday: Sharing Sack: Please help your child collect items from home to share at school. Try to encourage your child to choose items that have some sort of meaning rather than a collection of toys. These items will be shared at our morning meeting.

*Wednesday: Favorite Book: Your star student should bring a favorite picture book to be read to the class.

*Thursday- Parent Letter: Parents, you will write a letter to our class about your star! Send the letter to school in a sealed envelope. I will read it to the class. The content of the letter is up to you, but you may want to choose from the following ideas:

- *tell a funny story about when they were a baby or toddler
- *write a silly or serious poem about your child
- *tell us some neat things we may not know about your child
- *write a short story with your child as the main character
- *make sure the letter includes how special your child is to you!

*Thursday or Friday: Buddy Lunch: If possible join your child for lunch in our cafeteria! Our lunch time is from 12:05-12:25! Feel free too bring a favorite lunch for you and your child or arrange to buy school lunch (just let me know ahead of time so I can order one for you!)

The "Buddy Lunch" can be arranged for any day of the week to accommodate your personal schedules.

Star of the Week Schedule

2009-2010

Week of	Student
September 21	Christine
September 28	Jenna
October 5	Connor
October 19	Lauren
October 26	Meghan
November 9	Andrew
November 16	Nick
November 30	Brooke
December 14	Jack F.
January 11	Colin W.
January 18	Sam
February 1	Jack S.
February 8	Mattea
February 22	Sydney
March 1	Alex
March 8	Timmy
March 22	Addie
April 12	Michael
April 19	Gina
April 26	Duncan
May 3	Collin K.
May 10	Ella

Dear Parent:

**Your child will soon be our
"Star of the Week"!**



The week will be _____.

Please let me know if you need to change the days of our Star of the Week Schedule to fit your schedule. Typically, days go like this:

Monday: Poster and Pictures

Tuesday: Sharing Sack

Wednesday: Favorite Book

Thursday: Parent Letter

Friday: Lunch Buddy (Could really be any day you choose)

Please write which day of the week you will be doing the following so I can plan accordingly. Send back this form even if you're doing activities on the typical days.

Favorite book

Parent Letter

Lunch Buddy (Should I order you a lunch?)

Please let me know if you have any additional questions about the exciting upcoming week!

**Sincerely,
Mrs. Helmberger**