

May News



5 B

Reading



We are finished with unit 5, and will be completing a benchmark during the first week of this month. Afterwards, we will move on to unit 6, which focuses on the unexpected using stories with life lessons learned through ordinary experiences. Students will also finish the novel “The Whipping Boy”. The requirements and due date for the project that accompanies this novel were sent home on Wednesday, April 28th.

Students should begin to look for a biography or autobiography for our next book report which will be due on June 10th. Requirements for this report will be sent home this month.

It is important for students to take the responsibility of doing their assignments on time. Please help your child by reminding them that with middle school comes lots of responsibility, and it is good practice to start now.

Writing/Language Arts



Students are currently working on persuasive essays, and will move on to research reports for unit 6. Both writing assignments will be done in class.

Spelling lists are given on Monday mornings. Students keep their spelling lists in their agendas and on the reading home-school connection sheet so they can practice regularly.

Math



This month we will continue working with fractions and percentages. Students will be learning to add and subtract fractions and mixed numbers. We will also work with surface area and probability.

All material we cover can be found in the math text. If your child is having any difficulty with homework or needs some extra practice, encourage him or her to bring home their math text book regularly.

Social Studies

Students will continue learning about the colonies and the revolution.

Science

This month we will be studying rocks and minerals. Students will also be reviewing concepts for the upcoming MCAS. Please see the note below for an optional extra credit assignment.

Reminders



- Please check in with your child to see if he or she has supplies (highlighters, pens, pencils, **notebooks**, etc.). As supplies run low, students may need to replenish them.
- Please check your child's agenda to help him/her stay on track and keep up with assignments. **There are many important dates that students have added to their agendas recently.**
- Math MCAS dates: May 17th & 18th.
- Science MCAS dates: May 20th & 21st.
- The Whipping Boy scrapbook project due: May 25th.
- Biography/Autobiography book report due: June 10th.



Extra Credit Opportunity for Science

As we begin our study of rocks and minerals students will be exploring using hands on activities. I have recipes for cookies that resemble the different types of rocks. By “dissecting” these cookies, students will be able to classify rocks according to characteristics. I think this will be a fun and unique way to explore.

I am planning on doing this activity during the second or third week of May. If you would like to volunteer to make a batch of cookies for the class, please let me know via email or note. I will then send you the recipe and exact date for the project. Students who help their families bake cookies will be able to earn extra credit towards their term 4 science grade. Thank you in advance for your help! 😊