Wondering What We Are Studying in

Fifth Grade This Trimester?

I’d like to take some time out to share the new units your child will be studying for the next couple of months:

**Religion-**Unit 1 Revelation

Students will be able to identify & describe how God is both within us and others. We will learn how to reflect God’s image through kind acts and using virtuous decisions.

A quiz is normally scheduled every 5 days with a review on the previous day.

We also attend Mass every Monday and on special days.

Fifth grade is the designated choir for the school.

**Language Arts-** Unit 1 The Sentence and Unit 2 Nouns

Students will learn to about the parts of a sentence including the predicate and subject. They will be able to identify and use different kinds of sentences and punctuation. Conjunctions will be incorporated to help with “short” sentences or run-on sentences. This will help students practice the usage of commas and other punctuation.

For Unit 2 Nouns, student will be able to identify different types of nouns including singular, singular possessive, plural, and plural possessive nouns. This will help in the usage of an apostrophe.

**Math-** Types of Numbers, Place Value, and Word Problem Solving

A special note about our fifth grade math curriculum:

The Middle School teacher and I have used our Saxon Math curriculum by placing certain lessons together so as to better provide the students with a smoother transition from one concept to another. For example: Lessons 1, 2, 4, and 5 cover types of numbers where lesson 3 will be used when we move to place value.

Students will be able to have the vocabulary available to them so that the transition to more difficult math will be smoother. Place value will help in the future with addition, subtraction, and multiplication of decimals and fractions.

 Word problems will be used throughout the school year. Students start with the very basic vocabulary of word problem solving such as “altogether”, “left”, and “product”. By defining these words first, students will be able to better understand math problems written in words and translate them into equations.

**Social Studies/Geography-** Unit 1 What was Life Like for the First Americans?

Students will discuss and learn about the cultures, languages, geography, and traditions of the First Americans, Native Americans. Students will participate in discussions and presentations that will allow them to relate to their own experiences in today’s world.

 A practice test is handed out after every lesson and the test is scheduled to cover all lessons in a unit. Two days of review are always held before the test date. The Social Studies book can be written in and is your best resource.

 Geography is incorporated throughout all subjects in the curriculum. For example, we map out Brazil in religion when we learn about activists help keep God’s rainforests safe. Or we map out and research the first Explores’ routes on land and sea.

**Science-** Unit A Life Science

In this unit students will learn the characteristics if living things and how animals and plants are classified. Students discover how organisms grow and reproduce and how traits are passed from one generation to the next. Our class pets participate in this lesson! Students also discover and research how adaptations help living things adapt to their environments including land and water. Finally, students discover how an ecosystem works and how energy moves within it.

**Reading- Old Yeller and the Problem, Possible Solution, and Actual Outcome Model / The Tale of Despereaux & Character Analysis**

Students will create an in class skit reflecting the problem, possible solutions, and actual outcome of different scenes from Old Yeller. This will help student identify the parts of literature that show climax and that present the premise of a story.

Students will read a fantasy tale about a hero & compare & contrast character traits from themselves and the lead character in the story. Students will also learn and use new vocabulary & identify their parts of speech in a sentence.

**Spelling-** Emphasis on review basic phonemic practices, blends, & guides for spelling correctly

Commonly misspelled words will be covered first such as “they’re”, “their”, and “there”. Please see the fifth grade spelling guide for a more detailed look at the week’s assignments.

**Please check my website daily for homework assignments and updates on each tab. The website is one of greatest resources when it comes to our classroom!**

**Don’t forget that your child is the first “go-to” when it comes to learning about his or her classroom!**

**Through communication, patience, respect, responsibility, and motivation we will have an amazing year!**

**~ Miss Alvarez**