

# March News

March 2019

Mr. Hayes & Ms. Shilale

Grade 5

**"The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you'll go."  
-Dr. Seuss**

"In like a lion, out like a lamb."  
Hard to believe spring is just around the corner. Our ELA MCAS dates are April 23<sup>rd</sup> - 24<sup>th</sup> (Tuesday and Wednesday). The children have been working hard and are ready to show what excellent readers and writers they are. Please be sure your son/daughter gets a good night's sleep, and eats a good, healthy breakfast during the testing period. Please encourage your child to do his/her best.

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**"You've learned the things you need  
To pass that test and many  
more-I'm certain you'll succeed.  
We've taught you that the earth is  
round,  
That red and white make pink,  
And something else that matters  
more-  
We've taught you how to think."**

**-Dr. Seuss (from Hooray for  
Diffendoofer Day)**

## ELA

In ELA, we are in the final moments of the novel, *Holes*. The students have been at the edge of their seats, eager to discover the fate of Stanley and Zero. After reviewing the novel, the students will be tested on the fiction elements of the story (March 15th).

The 5th grade ELA MCAS has been rescheduled for Tuesday, April 23<sup>rd</sup> and Wednesday, April 24<sup>th</sup>. During the weeks before testing, we will review typing skills, analyzing digital text and becoming comfortable and confident with the test taking tools on the computer...they will be taught to highlight, underline, take notes, and collect evidence. The expectation is that our students will be able to construct a 5 paragraph TIDE essay and/or a narrative using the "PEST" strategy in a character's point of view. Students usually write three pieces on the first day of testing and two pieces on the second. The good news is that all students have had the opportunity to practice these types of writing in class as well as for homework.

Thank you in advance for supporting your child with their homework packets each week. The more practice, the less anxious they will be on "Game Day!" If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

## MATH

In math, we have been working on "Operations and Algebraic Thinking". In this unit, the children reviewed writing, interpreting, and evaluating numerical expressions using the order of operations. The students also analyzed patterns to identify apparent relationships between corresponding terms. Lastly, the students had to form ordered pairs (consisting of corresponding terms from two patterns) and graph them on a coordinate grid.

Next, we will begin a unit on "Measurement and Data". In this unit, we will review the perimeter (distance around) and the area (amount of space inside a "2-D" figure) of geometric figures. The students will apply formulas for calculating the area of rectangles, parallelograms, and triangles. Also, students will work on finding the volume (the amount of space inside a "3-D" figure) of rectangular prisms ( $V = \text{length} \times \text{width} \times \text{height}$  or  $V = \text{"area of the Base"} \times \text{height}$ ).

The students can practice their math skills by playing the following games (for detailed instructions, see the Student Reference Book):

- *Hidden Treasure* (SRB pg. 319)
- *Angle Tangle* (SRB pg. 312)

The students will also continue to practice the skill of "estimating" sums, differences, products, and quotients. Congratulations to our February estimation winners:

- *Lilian Bellido*
- *Donovan Brooks*
- *Altea Mehillaj*
- *Christian Rivera*

## SOCIAL STUDIES

In Social Studies, we are building background on early America and colonization. The children will explore the landing of the Pilgrims at Plymouth Rock. They will really enjoy learning about the significance of the Mayflower Compact by analyzing primary source documents. The students will also learn about how the New England, Middle, and Southern Colonies developed unique cultures. They will compare and contrast the similarities and differences between the different colonies.

## SCIENCE...Project's Fair

Dear Parents:

*As you know, our science fair was a huge success - and I have you to thank! Pulling off a science fair is a large task. But with your help, we did it!*

*I appreciate that you volunteered to take part in such an important event.*

*Thanks again.*

*Mr. Hayes*

The science-fair project was a great way to excite children about science, teach them to think like scientists, develop their organizational skills, and enhance their writing and oral-presentation skills.

What a tremendous success...The students did an outstanding job! Mrs. Moynihan, Ms. Shilale, and Mr. Hayes were extremely proud of the children's work. The judges were also very impressed...many commented that it is

hard to believe that these projects were done by 5<sup>th</sup> grade students!

### *Congratulations to Everyone!*

#### 1<sup>st</sup> Place Winners:

- *Armig Bardizbanian - CUT YOUR ELECTRIC BILL: Which Home Appliance Consumes the Least Energy?*
- *Noushig Bardizbanian - SWEET TREAT: What is the Best Ratio of Sugar to Corn Syrup...*
- *Kevin Bisson - HOCKEY IS COOL: How Does the Temperature & Weight of a Hockey Puck...*
- *Era Islamaj - THE BIG WAVE: How Do Depth and Wave Velocity Affect A Tsunami?*
- *Sophia Moriarty - I HEART RAT-EO: What Is The Best Method To Lower Your Heart Rate...*
- *Avery Smith - TECHNO BRAIN: How Do Electronics Affect People...*
- *Nathan Suyer - STAY COOL: Which Water Bottle Holds Water Temp. the Best?*

#### 2nd Place Winners:

- *Ayden Blanchette - 3...2...1...A SMILING RESULT! What Type Of Toothpaste Whitens Teeth the Best?*
- *Avery Corriveau - GROW US IN SOMETHING ELSE! Can Plants Grow In Things Other Than Soil?*
- *Emma Jaupaj - THE HARD FACTS: What Type Of Water Is The Hardest?*
- *Olivia Muska - CLOSE OR FAR: What Is the EMF of Household Appliances?*
- *Ava Merk - WHAT'S HOT, WHAT'S NOT?: What Type Of Container Traps the Most Heat?*
- *Natalia Okala - SO YOU THINK YOU CAN DISSOLVE?: Which Type Of Liquid Does A Candy Cane Dissolve...*
- *Ellie Price - COLOR EXPLOSION: Which Type Of Tye Dye Application...*
- *Nicholas Velu - IS IT NATURAL?: Are Aloe Vera Products...*

## SCIENCE

In science, the students will begin learning about "The Properties of Matter." They will focus on the "Big Idea" that all matter has properties

that can be observed, described, and measured. The essential questions they will explore are:

- **Lesson 1: What Is the Structure of Matter?** In this lesson, students will learn that matter has mass and takes up space, and that matter is made up of atoms. Students will also learn about the elements that make up all matter.
- **Lesson 2: What Are Physical Properties and Changes?** In this lesson, students will learn that matter can change states at different temperatures. They will also learn about mixtures and solutions.

## FUNDRAISER UPDATE

Our last Pizza Party raised \$120.00! So far, between the three pizza parties and the Holiday raffle, we have a total profit of \$818.00...**wow!**

ALL money raised will be used:

- to defray the cost of our "Boston Tea Party Museum" field trip. (**June 5<sup>th</sup>** ...we already sent in a deposit).
- to supply refreshing treats on those warm spring afternoons.

Our next Grade 5 pizza party fundraiser will be on **Friday, April 13<sup>th</sup>** (the day before April vacation).

**\$6.00 to participate**

## A FEW REMINDERS

- Your child should be reading EVERY night for at least 30 minutes, either silently or aloud to another member of the family. Please talk with your child about what he/she is reading. Thank you!
- Math homework is assigned EVERY Monday - Thursday evening!
- If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact us at:

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and we will be happy to set up a time to discuss them with you.

