

November News

November 2019

Mr. Hayes & Ms. Shilale

Grade 5

It is hard to believe that the first term of the school year has come to an end. Report Cards will be sent home by the end of November.

A child's report card can bring feelings of joy, excitement, and pride; it can also cause concern, frustration, and uncertainty. In either case, the reporting period marks a new beginning to set goals and reflect on past work habits, achievements, and hardships. Most important, it is a time for you to communicate with your children and determine a path for future academic enrichment and social-emotional growth. As parents and teachers, we want the best for children, but in too many cases this is measured only by the number of A's and B's brought home. Emphasize to your children the importance of doing the very best job that he/she can...encourage your child to succeed

"One child, one teacher, one book, and one pen can change the world."

-Malala Yousafzai

ELA

In ELA, we continue to focus on strategies for comprehension:

- **G:** *Read and create Gist.*
- **U:** *Underline the question.*
- **T:** *Taking notes carefully.*
- **S:** *Seek the evidence.*

"Trust Your Gut!"

We are at the "turning point" of our novel *Earthquake Terror*. While we read, we stop and analyze the literary elements by writing "LOW TIDE" essays. This learning acronym guides the students to write thoughtful responses using a specific format. Thank you for helping your child study the "LOW TIDE" graphic organizer. The sentence starters truly give your children the ability to "self-start" and the confidence to write complex sentences that demonstrate their thoughts.

MATH

In math, we have just finished working on Multiplication and Division. It is important for the students to practice their math facts (both multiplication and division) and be able to recognize the relationship between multiplication and division. If a person knows that $4 * 5 = 20$, he/she should also know the related facts $5 * 4 = 20$, $20 / 4 = 5$, and $20 / 5 = 4$. All students will continue to practice using the traditional multiplication and long-division methods for solving computation problems.

Next, we will begin Unit 4...Fractions, Decimals, and Percent. This unit focuses on writing numbers as fractions, decimals, and percents. Your child will review how to simplify fractions and formulate rules for finding equivalent fractions. In Unit 4, your child will also work on adding, subtracting, and multiplying fractions.

The students will also continue to practice the skill of "estimating" sums, differences, products, and quotients.

Congratulations to our October Estimation winners:

- ***Alan Morfe***
- ***Owen Rucki***
- ***Lyndsay Talbot***
- ***Cassidy Pitney***

SOCIAL STUDIES

In Social Studies, we will be wrapping up the 1st term by studying the journey of settling the Americas. Next, we will begin to study the thirteen original colonies, and the reasons people came to America during the Colonial Period. We will be comparing and contrasting life today with life in the colonies. We will also be discussing the causes and battles of the American Revolution.

SCIENCE

In science, the children had fun being "scientists". They learned about the "Scientific Method" by completing an experiment with 1st Class Levers. The children went through all parts of the scientific process:

- *Asking A Question*
- *Gathering Information*
- *Writing A Hypothesis*
- *Conducting an Experiment*
- *Analyzing Data*
- *Writing A Conclusion*

Their task was to work with a group and "prove" the "Law of Equilibrium" for 1st Class Levers. Ask your children what they found out!

Also in Science, the children will be learning about the "Earth, Moon, and Beyond." The students will focus on the "Big Idea" that Earth is part of a solar system, which is made up of many different objects orbiting a sun. The essential questions they will explore are:

- **Lesson 1:** How Does Earth's Orbit Affect the seasons?
- **Lesson 2:** How Do Earth and the Moon Compare?

It will be fun!

SCIENCE FAIR 2020

A science-fair project challenges a student to answer a question using the scientific method. It is 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.

All students have been given handouts ("Informational Packet") in class that explain the process of conducting a science-fair project and guide them on their way. The bulk of the students work will be completed at home. I hope that you will offer your child support and encouragement and monitor his or her progress in the coming weeks. At the same time, I ask that you keep in mind that the project is your child's responsibility. By limiting your involvement, your child will receive the full educational benefits of the science fair.

Robotics Club...

In the VEX IQ Challenge "Squared Away", teams of students are tasked with designing and building a robot to play with other teams in a game-based engineering challenge. Classroom STEM concepts are put to the test as students learn lifelong skills in teamwork, leadership, communication, and more. Let's wish the following 5th grade Robotics Club members the best of luck this year:

<i>Lily Campbell</i>	<i>Conor Chabot</i>
<i>Thalia Cartanega-Ortiz</i>	
<i>Owen Henderson</i>	<i>Danny Kristo</i>
<i>Madison Lee</i>	<i>Michael Morano</i>
<i>Alan Morfe</i>	<i>Isaac Perdomo</i>
<i>Elijah Richmond</i>	<i>Dennis Simakoff</i>
<i>Victoria Start</i>	<i>Hannah Suyer</i>
<i>Rachel Suyer</i>	<i>Allison Tego</i>
<i>Madelyn Vega</i>	<i>Ava Wells</i>
<i>Tony Zamarro</i>	<i>Emily Zhuri</i>

FUNDRAISER UPDATE

Our 1st Grade 5 pizza party will be on Thursday, October 31st (**please see the attached notice for more details**)

This November, to raise additional funds, the 5th grade will raffle off "4 Boston Bruins Tickets" for a game in January, February, or March, 2018.

There will also be second, third, and fourth prizes of "4 Tickets" each for a Worcester Railers game at the DCU center.

We will be asking the students to sell tickets to their family, friends

(parents' friends), and relatives. **DO NOT want students selling tickets door to door!** Tickets will be sold for \$2.00 each or a book of 6 tickets for \$10.00.

More details to follow.

- ❖ *We are looking for a connection to obtain **4 Boston Bruins** tickets. Please email Mr. Hayes or Ms. Shilale if you (or someone you know) has such a connection or is willing to make a donation.*
Thank You!

WISH LIST

If you are able to donate any of the following items to our classroom, we would greatly appreciate it!

MR. HAYES & Ms. SHILALE

- Clorox Wipes & Tissues

A FEW REMINDERS

- There is NO school on Monday, November 11th due to Veteran's Day.
- Our Thanksgiving Break will begin on Wednesday, November 27th. The students and staff will return to school on Monday, December 2nd.
- Your child should be reading EVERY night for at least 30 minutes, either silently or aloud to another member of the family. Please talk to your child about what he/she is reading. He/she should also be "quoting an enhanced sentence", logging the time and pages, and asking you to read their sentences before asking for your signature.
- Math homework is assigned EVERY Monday - Thursday evening! Also, please encourage your children to work on the "Weekend Math Challenge" or the "Sudoku Challenge"
- If you have any questions of concerns, please feel free to contact us at:
shilalea@worcesterschools.net
hayesd@worcesterschools.net
and we will be happy to set up a time to discuss them with you.

LET'S CELEBRATE...

AUTUMN (and Halloween) with a classroom party!

Autumn

The green leaves are turning
To yellow, red, and brown
And when the wind comes
Whistling by, they'll
all



come
sailing
down

WHEN: Thursday, October 31st @2:00

WHERE: Grade 5 classrooms

If you would like to donate any of the following, your generosity would be greatly appreciated:

- Fruit (*highly recommended!*)
- Snacks (Nothing with Nuts...)
- Juice boxes
- Other

Please have your child return this notice to school by Friday, October 25th

Thank you.

Mr. Hayes / Ms. Shilale

I will be happy to donate _____ for Thursday's Autumn Classroom Celebration.

Child's Name:



Dear Parents,

On Thursday (October 31st), we will be having a Fall Celebration and our annual Halloween parade. The parade will be at 2:00. We will begin our classroom celebration after the parade. Please feel free to arrive any time after 1:30 to take pictures prior to the parade.

CONCERNING THE PARADE:

- ☐ ALL costumes must be put in a bag labeled clearly with your child's name. NO costumes may be worn to school. Costumes should be able to be put on over clothing as our restroom space is limited....NO MAKE-UP!

CONCERNING THE PIZZA PARTY FUNDRAISER:

- ☐ To help raise money to fund our end of the year field trip, we will sell pizza for lunch on Thursday, October 31st. Participation in the pizza party fundraiser is completely optional! We are asking anyone who wishes to participate to make a donation of \$6.00 (*any donation would be greatly appreciated*).

Looking forward to Thursday...Happy Autumn!

Mr. Hayes / Ms. Shilale

