



Welcome Back!

We are so excited to be back at school! There are so many new faces to Goshen and the energy and enthusiasm is soaring! Students have told us so many wonderful and exciting things that they have experienced this summer and seem just as thrilled to be back as we are.

If you haven't already met the 5th grade teachers, here's just a little bit about us.

Mrs. Kerr, has been teaching 5th grade at Goshen for three and half years! She will be teaching math 5 with Mrs. Jiron this school year to our 5th graders. She is very much looking forward to another successful year! Mrs. Hecht will also be working with Mrs. Kerr as a student teacher while she earns her Master's Degree in teaching.

Mrs. Doyle will be also teaching 5th grade math. She has been teaching for 4 years in Montgomery County with two years in the 5th grade. She is excited for another great year!!

Miss Swick joined us in fifth grade last year and is very excited to be back again this year. She will be teaching Math 6 to our fifth graders. She is also looking forward to another successful year in 5th grade.

Mrs. Duda will be joining the 5th grade team this year to teach math 6 also to our 5th graders. She is joining us from Damascus Elementary School. We are so pleased to have her!

Mrs. Kerr, Mrs. Doyle, and Miss Swick will all be teaching reading, writing, science and social studies, to their homerooms.

We look forward to working with you this school year. Please feel free to e-mail or call us at anytime.

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Important Dates:

- ☺ **Sept. 3rd- Back to School Picnic 5:30-7:30**
- ☺ **Sept. 7th- No School**
- ☺ **Sept. 24- Back to School Night**
- ☺ **Sept. 28- No School**

Back-To-School Night

Please join us on Thursday, September 24, 2009, for our annual Back-to-School Night. Be on the look out for further information regarding the event.

We want your thoughts and suggestions for the fifth grade team so we can help your child learn in the best way possible! Write them here and send this back to school with your child.

Math



Goshen's math goal this year is for all students to be successful in all units of study. Help us with this effort by having your child study their multiplication and division facts nightly! This is very important and will help your child master concepts at all levels of math. Please cover your child's math book; paper grocery bags work great!

Unit 1A (5th Grade) Number Theory

During the month of September students will be studying factors and multiples. They will be finding the least common multiples of numbers as well as greatest common factors. Students will also learn prime and composite numbers and the rules of divisibility. Lastly, students will use their knowledge of factors and prime numbers to make factor trees! Please have your child complete their math homework nightly and ask them what they learned in math! You might even learn something new yourself!

Math 6 (Math A)

Unit 1 Graphing Data and Analyzing Statistics

Students will be conducting simple statistical investigations, displaying data, and discussing what they learned from the investigation. Later in the unit, students investigate different ways of finding an average for a given set of data. Students will also analyze data and determine how different data displays have been misused. Instructional activities include real world situations that are meaningful to the students. Make sure to check that your child has completed his/her homework each night and ask them what they have learned!

Reading

Our reading instruction involves teaching the skills and strategies to decode and comprehend text by helping your child develop effective and efficient processing systems. We will be focusing on strategy-based reading instruction which provides your children with a plan for monitoring and problem-solving difficulties with text before reading, during reading and after reading.

This month students will learn and apply various reading strategies to help monitor for meaning. Students will identify various parts of a story by using a story map and a plot diagram to assist them. Students will also identify the theme of various texts. Our genre focus for this month will be historical fiction.

The students also will begin literature circles. Be on the look out for your child's literature circle novel.

In addition, this month your child will take the MAP-R test. This test measures your child's reading comprehension. All fifth graders will take part in this test during the week of September 14-18th.

Please remember all students should read 30 minutes nightly and keep track of their reading on their Take Home Reader Log. Please initial you child's log after they have read. Reading logs will be checked on Friday's for at least 3 signatures. In addition to the Reader Log, your child should complete one journal response for the book they are reading weekly. This will be collected every Thursday. Look in your child's binder for examples of response suggestions and a model reading response. Thank you for your support in helping our students become good readers.

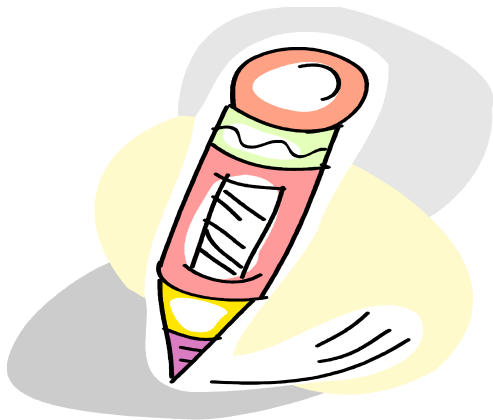
Science

This month, students will begin the first unit of science. Throughout unit one, students will learn about force, motion and energy. They will explore the causes and types of motion. Students will use data to infer an object's speed and determine the relationship between force and mass. Finally, the students will explore different types of energy and how Earth's natural resources provide energy needed for motion to occur.



Writing

During the month of September students will be examining the 6 traits of writing. This will help our students become more efficient writers throughout the year. These traits include, ideas, organization, voice, word choice, sentence fluency, and conventions. Be sure to ask your child about these traits.



Social Studies

Grade 5 social studies is a continuation of the chronological study of American history from fourth grade. Students learn about the American Revolution, the development of the Constitution, and important turning points in American history.



Calendars & Grizzly Grams

Please check your child's agenda book nightly for a daily report of their day. If your child has nothing highlighted in yellow or red, they earned a green day. Please congratulate them for their successful day! If your child received a yellow or red, it will be indicated in the agenda book this year. The subject where your child received the yellow or red will be highlighted with a teacher's note. Please discuss any yellow or red behaviors with your child as they occur and remind your child of the Goshen Behavior Policy.

Students will continue to bring home Grizzly Grams each week for earning a green week. Make sure to hang these in a special place; let's see how many your child can collect throughout the year! If your child does not receive a green week (they either received two yellows in one day or a red day) they will bring a yellow Grizzly Note. Please discuss your child's behavior with him/her and return the note to school on Monday. Thank you for your support.