

WILMINGTON CITY SCHOOLS GRADE 5 DENVER PLACE
ELEMENTARY
MONTHLY NEWSLETTER - February 2017

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Important Dates:

February 2- Skate Night 6pm in WCH
February 3- Interims Home/Late Arrival 11:00am
February 10- VIP Breakfast at 8am
February 14- Valentine's Day Party

February 17- Father/Daughter Dance 7pm
February 20 - President's Day-No School!
February 28- Student of Month Lunch/ Monthly Incentive
March 3 - Late Arrival 11:00am

Ms. Gripenberg (Social Studies)

Strand: Geography

Topic: Human Systems

Content Statement: Political, environmental, social and economic factors cause people, products and ideas to move from place to place in the Western Hemisphere.

Essential Questions:

- "How does where you live influence how you live?"

Expectations for Learning:

- Students will explain political, environmental, social and economic factors that cause the movement of people, products and ideas in the Western Hemisphere.

Content Elaborations:

People, products and ideas move from place to place in the Western Hemisphere for political, environmental and social and economic reasons.

- Political factors include changes in political leadership, citizen rights, etc.
- Environmental factors include climate, natural disasters, etc.
- Social factors include discrimination, intolerance, religious freedom, etc.
- Economic factors include the availability of resources, changes in trade patterns, employment opportunities, etc.

Fifth-grade students look at the political, environmental, social and economic factors causing the movement of people, products and ideas. Later, in sixth-grade, students build on this understanding to consider the impact of cultural diffusion in the Eastern Hemisphere.

Vocabulary: human resources, economic choices, capital goods, natural resources, benefits

If you need to reach me by phone before or after school, my direct phone line in the classroom is 283-7563.

Mr. Lefevre (Math)

In the month of February, 5th graders will be working on multiplying fractions.

Specific learning targets students will be working on are:

- I can model to find the fractional part of a group by multiplying by a fraction.
- I can multiply fractions by whole numbers and fractions.
- I can recognize math in everyday life and use math to solve problems.

Our new math resource, Go Math, has a wealth of information available to you and your child online. Below are directions on how to access this online system. Your child has been using this site in computer lab, so ask him/her to help you log in!

- www.thinkcentral.com
- Click on the Yellow Mathematics Tab, Click on GO MATH! (with blue background), Fill out the log-in with our information for our school
 - Ohio
 - Wilmington City Schools
 - Denver Place
 - USER NAME: firstnamelastname (your child's first and last name)
 - Password: denver
- Click on My Library to see the resources that are available to you.

We will be using the Chrome Books at Denver this month to practice for the AIR assessment. You may check it on-line at

<http://oh.portal.airast.org/ocba/> Take some time to visit and practice at home to support our in-class work.

As always, if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me! Email, notes and phone calls are great.

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Mr. Osterbrock (Science)

Activity Update:

Science class travels to outer space to explore the Universe! How is a Solar System different than a Galaxy? Why do planets orbit stars and moons orbit planets? Why do we have night and day on Earth? Why do we have different seasons here on Earth?

Learning Targets:

- Explain that stars are like the sun, some being smaller and some larger, but so far away that they look like points of light.
- Explain that Earth is one of several planets to orbit the sun, and that the moon orbits Earth.
- Describe the characteristics of Earth and its orbit about the sun (e.g., three-fourths of Earth's surface is covered by a layer of water [some of it frozen], the entire planet surrounded by a thin blanket of air, elliptical orbit, tilted axis and spherical planet).
- Describe how night and day are caused by Earth's rotation.

Vocabulary:

universe, galaxy, solar system, star, planet, orbit, rotation, axis, sun, earth, moon

Mrs. Camp (Language Arts)

HOMEWORK CHANGE!! Beginning February 6, students will be doing a different type of homework each evening. Each Monday, students will be giving a nonfiction test-like packet with paired passages OR a nonfiction test-like passage that is written in one of the five different types of text structure that we have previously learned. Research shows asking students to compare and contrast involves some of the highest level of thinking skills. Reading two passages that have a common thread and asking students to analyze the similarities and differences is a tough concept, but with practice can be attainable. It will be a common practice on the AIR assessment this spring. If you are interested in taking a look at some of the Practice AIR Assessments, you can log on to the ODE Home Page and click on the Parents and Families tab. Choose the subject and the grade to get an idea of what your child we be doing on these tests. Not an easy task!

If your student hasn't mentioned it to you yet, we have been reading our 3rd Qtr. Core text called WWII: An Interactive History Adventure. With WWII being our theme around our LA standards, it has brought up some tough conversations in class. WWII is full of horrific, dark events. We have discussed that the reason we study history is so that things such as this do not repeat itself. I have already sent an email and a Class Dojo message, but I know not all of you use these two forms of communication, so I am attaching the following link to give you ideas for discussions your child may bring up at home. It is from the WWII Museum: Considerations When Teaching WWII. As always, please don't hesitate to call or email me with any questions or concerns. Happy February!

<http://www.nationalww2museum.org/education/for-teachers/lesson-plans/preliminary-considerations.pdf>

Learning Targets:

- I can determine the meaning of unknown words or phrases in a Grade 5 text.
- I can use different strategies (context clues) to understand the meaning of unknown words or phrases.
- I can locate and use resources (glossary, dictionary) to help me understand unknown words and phrases.
- I can determine and explain the author's point of view.
- I can analyze multiple accounts of the same event while noting similarities and differences from each author's point of view.
- I can define and determine one or more main ideas of a text, and give supporting details from the text.
- I can summarize information in a text.

*WCS is in need of substitute bus drivers, cafeteria workers and teachers. Please contact the office if interested.