

Fifth Grade Newsletter for the week of November 13, 2023

Upcoming Events

November 17 – Explorers Day – Volunteers needed! Look for details from your classroom teacher. Students will need a costume to dress up as their explorer as well as a prop, which should not be a weapon. The costumes do not need to be too elaborate, and students can likely create a costume from clothing they already have at home.

November 20-24 – Thanksgiving Break

December 18-January 3 – Winter Break

Here's a look at the week ahead:

Spelling

We will enter List 7 and test on the words of List 7 on Thursday, November 16.

Math

Lessons 5-9 through 5-11 on Monday through Wednesday, with Test 5 on Thursday, November 16. No math on Friday due to Explorers Day.

History

We will delve into the sugar trade, the slave trade, and the triangular trading routes between Europe, Africa, and the Americas.

Science

We will learn about the food chain from producer organisms to apex predators.

Writing

We will wrap up our explorers' essays and speeches this week.

Literature

We will finish *My Side of the Mountain*. We will begin our next book, *Mrs. Frisby and the Rats of NIMH*, upon our return from break.

Geography

We are memorizing the 15 states and capitals from the Western region. Students have been given a study guide, blank copies of which are available on the website. The test on the Western region states, capitals, and postal codes will be on December 8. Subsequent tests will be held as follows: Midwest (Jan. 26), South (March 8), Northeast (April 5), and the All 50 states/capitals test will be on May 2. **Study early, study often.**

Please see next page.

Character Corner

The character trait for the month of November is Gratitude. “Feelings of connectedness, elevation, humility, and indebtedness resulting from gratitude can motivate us to put forth more effort towards school, work, our communities, and our relationships, perhaps even prompting us to strive for goals we would otherwise not have thought possible. Gratitude may, therefore, have the power to do more than make us happy and motivate us to improve our own lives. It can inspire us to become more productive members of society and better citizens of the world.”

Source: [How Gratitude Motivates Us to Become Better People](#)

**As we express our gratitude,
we must never forget that
the highest appreciation is
not to utter words, but to
live by them.**

John F. Kennedy

