



## 5TH GRADE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

*JV Washam Elementary  
Abernathy, Creely, Dasilva, Herrit, Kraft,  
Patterson*

February 2015

### Important Dates

February 2nd -  
Bailey Middle Field  
Trip permission  
forms due

February 3rd -  
Report Cards go  
home

February 5th -  
Quarter 2 Awards  
Ceremony at 9am

February 10th -  
Field Trip to Bailey  
Middle School

February 15th -  
Snow Make-Up Day

### Curriculum Overview for the month of February Please continue to check the Google calendar for all Important dates

#### Math:

Unit: Students will continue to work on place value. There is a huge emphasis on adding/ subtracting/ multiplying and dividing decimals. They need to know from the thousandths place to the hundred millions place. They must be able to read, write, compare, round and order numbers. Cycle 4 math assessment will take place around the third week of February. It will continue to spiral through all previously taught standards.

Homework: Students will have a practice worksheet or activity nightly. Students can also utilize Dreambox again this year.

Assessment: Check the Google calendar for unit assessments.

#### Reading Workshop:

Unit: Historical Fiction Book Clubs

To start the month of February, we will finish reading historical fiction books. All students have been placed in a book club where they were able to read about an extraordinary event from the past. In their clubs students had discussions about their character's perspective and discussions about themes that they noticed. Now students will get the chance to share the

## Class Websites

**Emily Abernathy:**

eabernathy.weebly.com

**Jennifer Creely:**

jennifercreely.weebly.com

**Tiffany DaSilva:**

www.msdasilva.com

**Kate Herrit:**

katieherrit.cmswiki.wikispaces.net

**Lisa Kraft:**

Under  
Construction

**Maggie Patterson:**

mstpattersonsclass.weebly.com

important lessons or themes that they learned in their books with others by presenting with their book club. We will then dive into our next nonfiction unit about researching. In this unit, students will be researching in a small group about a historical time period of their choice!

Homework: Read 30 minutes, reading response (Monday - Thursday)

Assessment: Check the Google calendar for unit assessments.

### Writing Workshop:

Unit: Opinion Writing / Historical Fiction Writing

During the beginning of the month students will finalize and publish their Argument Essays for opinion writing. We will then begin our next unit - Historical Fiction Writing! After the recent exposure to HF during our book clubs in Reader's Workshop, students are eager to have a chance to become the author themselves! During our Historical Fiction unit, students will learn to consider how the time period and the plot intersect with the characters' internal and external traits as they are crafting their own story.

Assessment: At the end of the unit, the opinion writing essay will be graded using a rubric.

### Word Study:

We will continue with our Word Study activities at school to prepare for the Friday assessments.

Homework: Students should spend at least 5 minutes each night practicing their sorts.

Assessment: A spelling assessment will be given at the

Please visit our websites for more information throughout the school year. Important dates and assessments will be posted on the Google calendar that can be found on our webpages.

**Newsletters will be sent home monthly, unless important information needs to come out earlier!**

end of each week.

### **Science:**

Unit: Students will begin the Earth Systems unit (weather) this week. Students will compare and predict weather conditions based on data collected, explain how global patterns such as jet streams and water currents influence local weather. Students will know that weather can change from day to day and that many factors are measured to describe and predict weather conditions.

Please be sure to keep up with vocabulary from all units. Periodic vocabulary quizzes will be given throughout the month.

Homework: Students should study their science vocabulary words nightly.

Assessment: We will take the common assessment for Weather around February 29th.

### **Social Studies:**

Social Studies will be integrated during both literacy and math/science blocks, as well as during Extension time. Students will complete a weekly Time for Kids assignment and will be assigned a Social Studies Research question every 3 weeks. We will use Project-Based learning of Social Studies standards during our Extension time.

**\*\*Time for Kids is back in action! Regular assignment and quiz will be given weekly!\*\***