

5th Grade Back to School Night

Room 202: Molly Kull

Room 203: Allie McMahon

Room 219: Sarah Nakashima

Ritual and Routines:

- Being on time to school is critical this year. Students can get behind quickly and it creates a frazzled start to their day.
- Planners go home each night where students are responsible for writing in homework and important due dates. Planners need to return to school each day signed by a parent or guardian.
- Students will receive spelling/vocabulary each Friday and they will write their words into their planners. They will be tested on the words/definitions the following Friday. Their completed spelling packets will also be due each Friday at the beginning of the day.
- Literacy packets will go home each Thursday and will be due the following Thursday. Students will not be allowed to call home for parents to deliver their homework. In the Literacy packet, students need to have the reading log signed with a parent signature each week. Additionally, single math sheets will go home daily or students will complete assignments online. We tend not give homework over holidays.
- **We encourage you to have the following references in your home to assist your child with homework: adult dictionary, synonym finder, atlas, and almanac.
- In the morning, we will have a time for students to have healthy and clean snacks. Appropriate snack choices include: fruit, string cheese, veggies, granola bars, goldfish, pretzels, yogurt, etc.
- All students should have a water bottle at school to keep hydrated.
- This year the 5th grade will be integrating personalized learning. This will begin with a weekly hour called "Genius Hour." Students will be able to create a research question of their choice, conduct a study on the topic, and produce a project or presentation which showcases their learning. Students will also be discovering their personal learning style in order to incorporate it into daily lessons.

Additional Information:

- We will attend Balarat this winter. There will be more information to come at the Balarat informational night closer to our trip.
- Science Fair projects will be due in November. We will have a Science Fair Informational Night in October.
- Family Life will take place in December.
- Young Ameritowne will take place Wednesday, February 3rd, 2016.
- Ms. Kull's class will perform *Macbeth* this year, Ms. McMahon's class will perform *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, and Mrs. Nakashima's class will perform *Romeo and Juliet*. The fifth grade will have a Shakespeare

Night in early April and we will attend the Shakespeare Festival downtown April 29, 2016. Please keep an eye out for parent volunteer opportunities with the Shakespeare Night in upcoming correspondence.

-In the fall depending on the middle school, students have an opportunity to visit or “shadow” at various middle schools. Parents are responsible for contacting the schools to set up shadowing visitations for their student at their interested schools.

-Teacher middle school recommendations are due in December. Please plan to give the recommendation forms to the teacher a minimum of two weeks prior to the due date. Please also include a stamped enveloped with the correct mailing address of the desired school.

-There will be three book reports this year, one per trimester. The first book report will be due at the end of October. Book report requirements will include protagonist, antagonist, conflict, setting, plot, and theme. There will be more specific directions coming soon.

-Additional big projects: U.Park Pursuit, math board games

Additional questions or comments? Please email us at the following information below. Email is the easiest form of communication for us to get back to you in a timely manner.

Class Websites/Email:

Room 202: <http://tinyurl.com/mskull202>, molly_kull@dpsk12.org

Room 203: <http://tinyurl.com/mcmahonroom203>, allison_mcmahon@dpsk12.org

Room 219: <https://sites.google.com/a/dpsk12.net/mrs-nakashima-s-fifth-grade/>, sarah_nakashima@dpsk12.org