

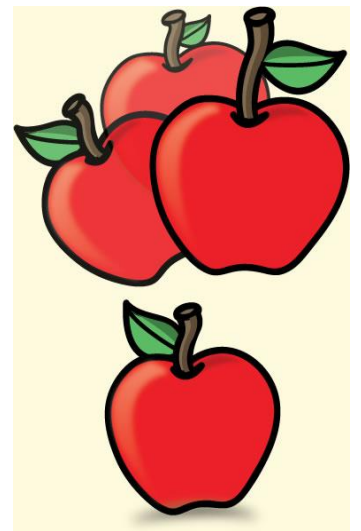
5th Grade News from Toquam



LITERACY

In Reader's Workshop, we have begun our non-fiction unit. We will be reading several non-fiction texts covering many topics. Through these texts, we will examine various non-fiction text features. A typical non-fiction text might have features such as pictures with captions, key words with definitions, and headings. Understanding the content and determining the important information in a non-fiction text is a critical skill. In a non-fiction text, there are many strategies for a reader to use to better comprehend what they are reading. Some of these helpful strategies would be making connections, using schema to making predictions, making inferences, interpreting graphical information, drawing conclusions, identifying the author's purpose, and determining the main idea and supporting details. Another important skill that is useful in understanding a non-fiction text is note taking. The students will learn to take notes by identifying important concepts and then paraphrasing this information in their words.

In Writer's Workshop, we are busy writing expository essays and will soon begin report



writing. Students will be responding to an expository writing prompt on their upcoming Writing CMT in March. Students are learning to write 5 paragraph expository essays that have a strong lead and thesis sentence (s), clear organization of three main points, and descriptive details. All students will be writing a research report during this unit. This report will take them through the report writing process (research, note taking, drafts, editing, revising, and publishing). So, be on the look out (in upcoming weeks) for their finished report – you will surely be impressed with all their hard work!



MATH

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In Math, we are nearing the mid-year point in our Everyday Math curriculum. Our most recent unit reviewed fraction concepts such as exploring mixed numbers, comparing and ordering fractions, finding equivalent fractions and turning fractions into decimals and percents. In upcoming units, we will be building on our fraction knowledge with adding, subtracting, multiplying, and dividing fractions. Other new mathematical concepts introduced will be organizing and analyzing data, using exponents, adding and subtracting positive and negative

numbers, performing problems using the correct order of operations, and interpreting and using ratios. Don't forget to have your child frequently brush up on their basic multiplication facts. Multiplication recall is a skill they will need all throughout their school years and life!



Social Studies and

Science

In Social Studies, we are moving west on the wagon trail! Our current unit of study is the westward expansion in the United States during the mid 1800's. The students will learn about pioneer living during this time period and what life was like on the wagon train going west.

In Science, we have begun our unit on Light and Sound. In this unit we will explore how sound waves produce sound and how vibration produces various pitches within sounds. We will learn about the different parts of the ear and how the ear works work. In our light unit, we will explore color and light, light reflection and refraction, convex and concave lenses, the process of how the eye sees, and the parts of the eye.

More News...

Our "Two-Hour Power" volunteer program is in full swing. Fifth grade students are working towards completing their two hours of volunteer service. Their giving back to their school, local, and national community is really making a difference! Keep that volunteering spirit going!



Upcoming Events:

Feb. 9th – California Pizza Kitchen Fundraiser

Feb. 15th – Early Release

Feb. 20th- 24th – Winter Break

March 2nd – End of 2nd Marking Period

March 9th – PTO Auction

March 5th – 16th – CMT Testing

March 20th – 22nd – Early Release/Report Card Conferences

Thank you for
all of the help
and support you
give your child.

Students +
Parents +
Teacher =
Success! 😊

Sincerely,
Ms. Hall
Ms. Davis
Mrs. Martin
Mrs. Mobarik

