



Back to school

WELCOME

Welcome to our 5th grade classroom.

First, I'll walk you through a typical day in our class.

Every morning we begin with an AVID activity. Mondays are focused on MOH, Tuesdays are Ted Talks, Wednesdays are a wellness focus (SEL), Thursdays are Thoughtful Thursdays (note taking/test prep), and Fridays are learning fun (brain teasers, critical thinking challenges).

Each day is a little different, but ELA, and Mathematics will be covered daily for at least an hour of time.



Social studies and science will alternate between two and three times a week, depending on the unit, projects and other time constraints. I will keep it flexible to ensure that we have ample time to complete what we need to complete.

Mondays & Thursdays students have PE with Mrs. Botton.

Please dress comfortably for PE.

Wednesdays students have music with Miss Emma and art with Mrs. McWilson.

Starting the 9th, a STEM focused elective will be added, and 5th grade will rotate electives at the end of the day on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

Class Environment

I believe a classroom should be **inclusive**,
collaborative, **hands on**, and inviting.

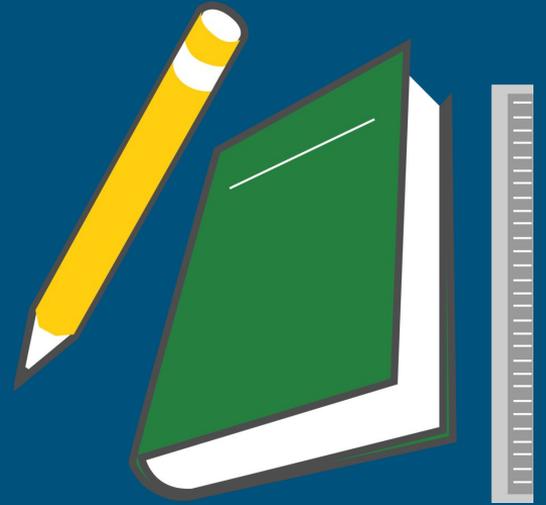
I want children to feel safe, comfortable, and enjoy
being here.

I truly hope that regardless of previous experiences
that they love coming to school this year, and enjoy
participating in our class and school activities.

Go hawks!



Supplies



I have ensured that each student has at least two folders, and two notebooks. A folder for each subject is ideal. Most other supplies are communal.

Homework



A packet will be given on Mondays, and they are due on Friday. However, I understand that families are busy, so I give a grace period for time on the weekend and students may turn in their packet on Monday as needed.

5th Grade Topics

This year students will cover a variety of topics including:

- The Constitution
- Early settlement of the United States
- The Earth's place in our Universe
- Working with decimals & fractions
- Understanding Author's point of view
- Volume and measurement
- States of Matter



We will also be doing three novel studies of the course of the year.

We will start with **Esperanza Rising** next week.

Grading Scale

— Our grading scale is based on the standard letter grade. Here is a breakdown of the percentages and how they result in the letter grade.

Tests/Quizzes 40%

Class Assignments 30%

Homework 15%

Participation 15%

Grade	Percentage
A+	100
A	93-99
A-	90-92
B+	87-89
B	83-86
B-	80-82
C+	77-79
C	73-76
C-	70-72
D+	67-69
D	63-66
D-	60-62
F	59 and below

My Two Main Rules

First, being respectful.

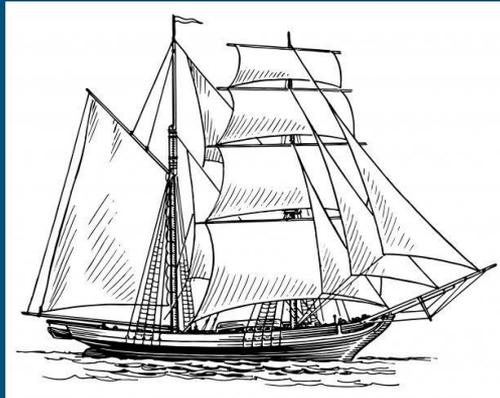
Second, we will leave things better than we found them.



Expectations

Follow the rules, attend daily,
participate, and try your best.

And it will be smooth sailing.



PBIS Points

We are a PBIS school, and students can earn points for **soaring!** Striving to be your best, owning your own actions, acting responsibly and being respectful of all.

We have a hawk store, and students can cash in their points for prizes. Students can access this through **Clever**.



PBIS REWARDS

Attendance is important.



Education is like building a house.
When you attend school, you are
setting the foundation for learning.

Each concept builds upon each other.

When you are absent, cracks form in
that foundation. One or two cracks,
and your structure can sustain it.
Several cracks, and your structure
starts to crumble.



Questions about anything covered so far. . . .



Our class webpage.

[Mrs. Higdon's Class](#)

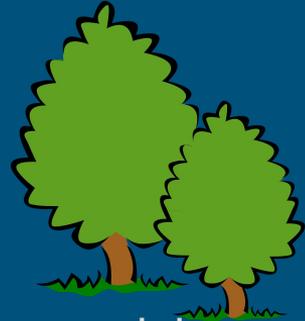
I have sent two emails so far. If you haven't received them, please check your spam or junk folder. Then please let me know if you do not have them. I will primarily use our class webpage for updates, but I will occasionally send an email.



Field Trips!

I love field trips, they are such a great way to learn outside the classroom, strengthen bonds, and make lasting memories. We have a couple fantastic field trips planned.

Outdoor Science Camp



This three day adventure will be in April. The students will stay overnight, go on hikes, learn about flora and fauna, meal preparation and food waste, experience an obstacle course and so much more.

Sign ups are required for this trip. The cost is \$400. Payment plans are available, and you can reach out to me, or the office for more information. I will be attending the trip, but there will be a substitute here for those who do not go. More information will be sent out but I do have forms that discuss payment now.

Our course is charted, we have wind in our sails, let the journey begin!

Feel free to sail around the room and explore.

If you haven't signed in at the front, or completed the forms on the desk, please do so now.

Thank you

