

# 5<sup>TH</sup> and 6<sup>TH</sup> Grade Newsletter

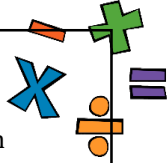
January, 2015

Student Name:

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## Math:



All students recently began their online math practice with their individual Jumoke student accounts on [IXL.com/signin/jumoke](http://IXL.com/signin/jumoke). IXL is an awesome resource for the students to show their understanding of skills, and improve their mastery of the grade-level skills! The students will be assigned certain skills for homework, and your children may always do additional practice on IXL.com! They should seek out this practice because their skills practice is crucial for their success! The 5th graders have finished our unit on place value, in which we learned about multiplying with exponents and calculating place value of numbers to the thousandths place. In our next unit, the 5th graders are learning how to multiply and divide multi-digit numbers and decimals. These skills are essential for success in the 5th grade and success beyond the 5th grade! Students should practice with Grit, Practice, and Success, and they may do additional practice on their accounts on IXL to further strengthen their skills!

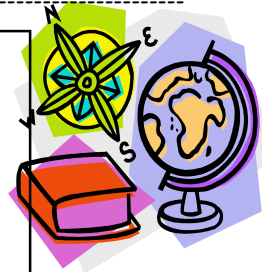
The 6th graders have finished our unit on operating with positive and negative integers, and are beginning our unit on expressions and equations. In the last unit, we used math skills to find opposites, find integers on number lines, calculate the absolute values, and find distances between points on the coordinate grid. The 6th graders will continue to strengthen these skills in the upcoming units, and we will continue to deepen our understandings of points on the coordinate grid.

## Language Arts:

In ELA grade 5 has been learning about explorers, real and imagined. They are currently reading James and the Giant Peach, The Little Prince, Phantom Tollbooth and Alice in Wonderland. They have also spent time reading about explorers like Zeng He, Marco Polo and Leif Ericson. Through these readings we have been comparing and contrasting traits of these explorers. In grade 6 their theme is Embracing Culture. The scholars are currently reading the following books, A Boy Called Slow, Where the Mountain Meets the Moon, Kira-Kira, A Single Shard and Esperanza Rising. Combined with these readings scholars are reading current events about culture from the website Newsela. We continue to work on expanding our thoughts and ideas in our writing.



## Social Studies:



In Social Studies we are currently working on a geography project that highlights the five themes of geography. This research project will be due in January. We are getting ready to wrap up our geography unit. At the start of the year, the fifth graders will be focusing on the age of exploration and the sixth graders will be focusing on the rise of the first civilizations. Parents can expect throughout these units scholars will be working on small projects.

## Science:

Both the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade have been delving into some intense subjects. In 5<sup>th</sup> grade we are in the middle of examining how our senses work and keep us safe in our environment. We have already examined how the nervous system interacts with our sense organs as well as looking at how the skin works. We are now investigating the human eye and will then move on to the ear.

In 6<sup>th</sup> grade we have been studying the different components of ecosystems. The students have participated in activities that allow them to see how organisms interact with and influence each other. Additionally, the students are working on an experiment to determine how nonliving factors can impact plants' growth and ability to do photosynthesis.