

Fifth Grade

Parent Orientation Packet

2008-2009

**Dr. Cheryl Reichel, Principal
Mrs. Susan DiGiorgio, Assistant Principal**

Faculty Members

Fifth Grade:

**Mrs. Ginny Emroll - Rm. 124 (Social Studies, English, Reading)
Mrs. Cynthia Jecker - Rm. 125 (Math, English, Reading)
Ms. Carolyn Kepler - Rm. 123 (Science, English, Reading)
Mrs. Patricia Niesel - Rm. 127 (Religion, English, Reading)
Ms. Katie Seifried, Intervention Specialist**

Fifth Grade Policies

We will be following the policies outlined in the Incarnation Student Handbook; however, we would like to direct your attention to the following:

Mass: A school Mass will be held on Fridays at 8:45 A.M. in the church. School Masses will also be held on Holy Days.

Absent Students: All fifth grade students will be responsible for making up missed assignments. It is the students' responsibility to check the homework website while absent and obtain any additional work upon returning to school. Absent work and textbooks can be compiled for students. This involves many teachers, so we ask that the parents email the homeroom teacher by 11:00 a.m. Upon request, work and books will be sent home with siblings or placed outside the office for pickup after school.

A dated note must be sent with your child when he/she returns to school after any absence, in addition to calling the office on the morning of the absence. These notes must be kept on file by the homeroom teacher, as required by the State of Ohio.

Lunch Period: Fifth grade students will have lunch and recess from 11:50 – 12:30. Only with a note from the parent/guardian will a child be permitted to remain inside during noon recess due to illness or injury. If you are bringing a lunch to your child, please bring it directly to the office.

Books: Books must be securely covered at all times. Students may only cover their books with paper. Textbooks that are the property of the school may not be covered with contact paper, including "removable" contact, which leaves a sticky residue upon removal. No cloth covers are permitted in the 5th grade.

Lockers: Students in the fifth grade are not permitted to have decorations, magnets, mirrors, etc. in their lockers.

Classroom Rules

To insure a pleasant and productive learning atmosphere in our classrooms, the Incarnation Fifth Grade has adopted the following classroom rules for this school year. These will be thoroughly explained by each homeroom teacher and are posted for the students to review in each classroom.

1. Maintain a quiet courtesy in the hallways.
2. Enter the classroom quietly and prepare to work.
3. Be prepared for class with supplies, textbooks, workbooks, and assignments.
4. Raise your hand and wait to be recognized before speaking out in class.
5. Stay on the assigned task.
6. Use language and conduct that is courteous and appropriate for our school.

Marking Code

Percentage	Letter Grade
93-100	A
85-92	B
77-84	C
70-76	D
69-below	F

Assignment Policies

Missing Assignments: Late or incomplete assignments, that are one day late, will receive a grade reduction of 10 points or 10%. When this occurs, the student will serve a recess detention, and parents will be informed. It is the student's responsibility to turn in late or incomplete work on the **next school day**. For absent students, work must be made up in a reasonable amount of time to be determined by the individual teacher.

Signed Tests: Tests may be sent home for parent signatures and should be returned to school within three days.

Detention: A student who has misbehaved in the classroom, in the lunchroom, or on the playground may be asked by the teacher to stay for detention from 3:10 until 4:00 P.M. A detention notice will be sent home concerning this detention at least one day prior to the date it is to be served. The parent(s) must sign this slip and the child will return it to the teacher on the day the detention is to be held. Without this signed note, the child will be sent home on the bus and a new detention date will be scheduled. Parents are asked to pick up their child promptly at 4:00 P.M. at the northwest doors (the bus lot) of the school.

Thank you for your help and cooperation in these matters.

Sincerely,

The Fifth Grade Teachers

Fifth Grade Religion
Mrs. Patricia Niesel

Texts

- *Blest Are We*, Silver Burdett Ginn Religion
- *Scripture workbook: Our Catholic Identity*, Bitney, Jambor, Nelson, Ready

Curriculum Program Objectives

- Introduction of concepts necessary for understanding sacraments in the Church.
- The Sacraments: Baptism and Confirmation, Eucharist, Reconciliation and Anointing of the Sick, Holy Orders and Matrimony
- Reinforcement of what Catholics believe, how we worship, live, pray, and care for others.
- Liturgical seasons of the Church
- Scripture- become familiar with well-known Bible stories.

Class Procedures

- There will be assessments after each chapter: chapter reviews, work related to chapters, written assignments, projects, and tests.
- Study guides for tests will be given and checked before tests.
- Material to be mastered includes: vocabulary terms called “Faith Words,” the “We Believe” doctrine statement for the chapter, and key points covered in the text and classroom discussion.
- Written activities will correspond with the material and are kept in the Religion notebook.
- Scripture workbook- students learn to find in the Bible well-known stories and respond in engaging activity pages.

Fifth Grade Science and Health
Ms. Carolyn Kepler

Texts:

- *Science*, MacMillan/McGraw Hill, 2002
- *Your Health*, Harcourt Brace and Company, 1999

Curriculum Program Objectives:

- Students will develop a stronger understanding of the solid and gaseous bodies in space along with their interrelationships.
- Students shall also investigate various forms of energy, including sound, heat, and electrical.
- A study of atoms, molecules, elements and compounds will provide students with a foundation in the understanding of chemistry and assist them in distinguishing between matter and energy.
- Our life science focus will cover amphibians; their characteristics, life cycle, habitats and predators.
- The environmental focus will cover air quality; both an understanding of what good air quality is as well as how to maintain or improve it.
- In Health, students will study the major body systems; including the major organs, their functions, and major diseases of each system.
- Included in the study of the body systems is a look at factors that influence fitness and health, such as diet, exercise and personal behavior.
- As well, a wonderful program called D.A.R.E., or Drug Abuse Resistance Education, will be taught along with the Health Unit. This program is provided through the local police department.

Class Procedures:

- Science and Health will be intermixed throughout the year. An individual Science grade will be given each quarter whereas a Health grade will be given only twice per year.
- There will be homework throughout the week and ample time will be given for completion of assignments. As the quarter progresses, students will be assigned a current event assignment; details to come later.
- Tests will contain multiple choice, matching, fill-ins, and short answer questions. Tests will cover material taught in lessons, text material, and information covered in lab. **All worksheets used in class should be kept until after the test over that material.**
- Throughout the year other projects may be assigned that take the place of a test. These may be individual or group projects.
- Students will conduct investigations using the scientific method. They also will participate in many other hands-on activities. Most labs and projects will involve cooperative group work. Students of all abilities and interests can benefit from sharing information and ideas in a cooperative group setting. No student will be permitted to jeopardize a group's performance or interfere with the learning of the material by the other group members.

Fifth Grade Math
Mrs. Cynthia Jecker

Text:

- *Mathematics Grade 5*, McGraw Hill

Curriculum Program Objectives:

- During the course of the year students will further their understanding of whole numbers, fractions, decimals, geometry, and measurement.
- Students will develop problem solving strategies using the operations of addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division.
- Students will use statistical methods in data collection. Data will be interpreted and read while incorporating the use of tables, plots, and various forms of graphs.

Class Procedures:

- As a general rule students will have math assignments three or four times a week. The students may be given pages of work that correspond to their textbook material or practice pages distributed in class.
- Students will be responsible for the organization of their 3-subject spiral notebook. These procedures will be taught and maintained throughout the school year.
- Participation in class, self-motivation, and individual effort speak volumes for a student's academic success. Students are expected to come to class ready to learn with a positive attitude.
- Help sessions will be provided before tests to reinforce concepts that students may be having difficulty with and to prepare for the chapter test. Information will be sent home with specifics to these sessions.
- In the spring, fifth grade students will participate in the Ohio Math League contest. This contest challenges students to show their understanding of basic principles through numerical problems and word problems that encourage an open, flexible approach to problem solving. This multiple-choice test consists of thirty questions completed in thirty minutes.

Fifth Grade Social Studies
Mrs. Ginny Emroll

Texts:

- *World Explorer: Geography Tools and Concepts*, Prentice-Hall
- *World History*, Scott-Foresman
- Nystrom Map Materials

Curriculum Program Objectives:

- Geographic Regions of the World
- World History: Prehistoric Times to the Fall of the Roman Empire
- Five themes of geography
- Map skills: making simple maps, identifying and reading different types of maps, using the atlas
- Focus on continent of Africa
- Prehistoric civilizations: Paleolithic Era to revolution of agriculture
- Ancient river civilizations: their governments, religious beliefs, cultural practices, development
- Mesopotamia, Egypt, China, India
- Mediterranean civilizations: Greece and Rome

Class Procedures:

- The study of geography and history involves note taking, map work, interpreting charts and graphs, writing assignments, research, discussions, cooperative learning and tests.

Fifth Grade Language Arts
Mrs. Emroll, Mrs. Jecker, Ms. Kepler, Mrs. Niesel

Spelling

Text:

- *Spelling Connections, Zaner-Bloser*

Curriculum Program Objectives:

- Development of word knowledge, spelling strategies, word meaning, editing and composition.

Class Procedures:

- There will be weekly spelling tests.
- There will be assignments from the textbook during the week prior to the test.

Reading

Texts:

- Treasures McGraw-Hill
- Danger along the Ohio Mildred Taylor
- Janitor's Boy Andrew Clements
- Number the Stars Lois Lowry
- The Tale of Despereaux Kate DiCamillo
- Various fiction and non fiction works- teacher and student selected

Curriculum Program Objectives:

- Introduction and/or reinforcement of core skills in reading comprehension, both fiction and non-fiction selections, vocabulary, study skills, composition, and speech.
- Build lifelong interest in reading for information and enjoyment.

Class Procedures:

- Through reading assignments and projects, students will be encouraged to enjoy reading and sample a variety of genres.
- Students will discuss, write, and respond to what they have read.
- Students will also learn to use their reading skills across the curriculum.
- Homerooms will visit the library on a weekly basis at an assigned time during reading class.
- Students are required to have a chapter book with them at all times.

English

Texts:

- *Language*, Harcourt
- *Grammar Workshop*

Curriculum Program Objectives:

- The objective of the fifth grade English program is to use the English language effectively and creatively in oral and written communication. Students will be instructed in basic grammar, sentence structure, composition, and speech.

Class Procedures:

- All forms of writing will be included in the English curriculum to help students become better writers. Students will compose examples of many forms of writing including narration, description, exposition, persuasion, exposition, informal letters, and poetry.
- Students will practice and apply the steps of the writing process, from pre-writing to publishing. A writing portfolio will be maintained.
- Through these and other class activities, students will improve their thinking skills and develop their writing skills.
- Assessment will be based on: the quality of final drafts evaluated using a rubric; meeting deadlines on all drafts; grammar activities; tests; the quality of student presentations; effort and improvement in computer skills, and class participation.
- At the end of the year students will enter the National Language Arts League Olympiad.

Fifth Grade Activities and Field Trips for 2008-09

We have many fun activities planned for this year. The price listed next to some of the activities details the cost of that particular activity. Activity fees are collected through the Facts Tuition Company. Invoices will be sent home in October. Fees are paid at one time so that families will not need to send in multiple checks numerous times throughout the year. The prices listed below are for your informational purposes. **Please do not send any money in at this time.**

Activities:

- Slimy Science – A Boonshoft Museum of Discovery interactive in-school presentation (\$4.00)
- Ladies Auxiliary of the Dayton Opera in-school presentation (\$2.00)
- Fifth Grade Prayer Retreat
- DARE – Drug Awareness and Resistance Program presented by the Centerville Police Department (\$1.00 for Officer Markham)

Field Trips:

- Camp Kern – Two night – three day team building and outdoor education (Anticipated cost is \$120 and will be paid separately. Information will come home in January/February)
- Victoria Theater – *King Tut* performance (\$8.25)

Additional Fifth Grade Fees:

- Assignment notebook (\$5.00)
- Weekly Reader magazine used in class work (\$6.00)
- Holiday Homeroom Treats (\$10.00)

Again, please do not send money into school for any of these fees at this time. This is for your information as to the upcoming activities in fifth grade. More information regarding each activity will come home as the time approaches!

August 17, 2008

Dear Parents,

The fifth grade is an important time to instill responsibility and accountability in the students, and we are asking your support in working on this during the school year. Please take some time to carefully review this *Fifth Grade Parent Orientation Packet* with your child. It includes important rules that will be stressed during the year and previews topics we will be working on.

To help enforce stated policies on late work and behavior, we would like to be able to contact you as soon as possible. We are requesting that you provide us with an email address so we can inform you of pertinent information. If you do not have an email address, please provide a phone number where you can be reached during the day.

Please complete and return this letter to your child's homeroom teacher by **Friday, August 28th**.

My Email Address: _____

Note: Please sign this form in a manner in which you will sign anything throughout the year. We will use this as a reference for your signature if there is ever a discrepancy. When two parents share responsibility for the child, we ask that both parents read this letter and the Open House Packet and sign this letter. Another packet and letter can be provided if there are two separate households.

We have read the policies in this letter and the Parent Orientation Packet and will support the contents.

Parent Signature

Parent Signature

I realize that my job in school is to learn. I will try to the best of my ability to follow the classroom rules and the school policies so that I can be a contributing member of my class.

Student Signature

Date

Thank you so much for your support at home. Together we can help to make this a positive and productive year for our students!

The Fifth Grade Teachers