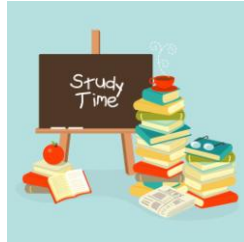


## News and Notes: Week of August 31<sup>st</sup> -September 4<sup>th</sup>

Ms. DeLuigi



Welcome to 5<sup>th</sup> Grade! The kids have really gotten the year off to a great start and are well on their way to achieving great things. Below you will find an overview of what we have accomplished this week.

**READING:** In reading we began Theme 1 in our anthology: Finding a Way. We discovered that all of the stories involved a character overcoming a challenge despite difficult circumstances. We read the story, Rope Burn, and identified the story elements, conflict, and resolution within the story. We discovered that each week we will also be responsible for several Robust Vocabulary words which can be found within the story. During the week we will apply each vocabulary word to several contexts in order to ensure a meaningful understanding of each word.

**ROBUST VOCABULARY:** humiliation, expectations, fringes, hesitating, sincere, coaxed.

**SPELLING:** A spelling list will be sent home at the beginning of each week. For the next 2 weeks we will work in school to develop routines for studying the words at home. Once these routines have been established, a "menu" of activities will be sent home for independent practice. All students will be given a pretest consisting of 20 words every Monday; if a student scores 90% or above, he or she will be given an alternate list of challenge words to study for the week.

**MATH:** In math we began Unit 1: Number Theory. We became acquainted with the content and organization of the Math Journal and Student Reference Book and completed a scavenger hunt to assess our knowledge. We worked hard to review rectangular arrays and the use of multiplication number models to represent such arrays. Later in the week, we reviewed the meanings of the terms factor and product and were provided with numerous opportunities to factor numbers and develop automaticity with our multiplication facts. Finally, we played Factor Captor in order to review divisibility concepts and identified several divisibility rules for whole numbers.

**SCIENCE:** In science we began our Environmental Issues unit. This unit will serve as great preparation for our upcoming trip to Harford Glen in a few months. We began the week by reading the book, Just a Dream, and identifying topics of environmental concern in our area. We discussed expectations while working in cooperative teams and assigned group jobs. Later in the week, we identified the 3 basic resources (sun, soil, and water) that all products can be traced back to and worked cooperatively to construct product webs depicting our understanding. Lastly, we analyzed predator/prey relationships by competing in a simulation game and discussing the impact of the food chain on energy consumption.

**WRITING:** In writing we began our Touchstone Text unit. This unit serves as a launching point from which students have the opportunity to enjoy several exceptional examples of authentic literature. This literature serves as a model for analyzing effective writing techniques which we will be integrated into personal writing pieces in the future. We were able to identify the impact of punctuation, sentence structure, poetic elements etc. on the stories that we read together.

**Schedule:**

9:00-9:50 SPECIAL  
9:50-11:10 ILA  
11:10-12:10 SCIENCE  
12:14-12:44 LUNCH  
12:44-1:00 FREE PLAY  
1:00-2:05 MATH  
2:05-2:55 WRITING  
2:55-3:25 SSR  
3:30 DISMISSAL

\*Students may bring a snack to eat during the day of desired.

**Specials:**

A-Day: Library  
B-Day: Music  
C-Day: Art  
D-Day: Gym  
Friday: Rotating

**Contact Info:** If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me directly by email or school phone. I will address your concerns as soon as possible. EMAIL: [Johanna.deluigi@hcps.org](mailto:Johanna.deluigi@hcps.org)

**Important Dates:**

Back-to-School Night: Wednesday, September 16<sup>th</sup>

I am looking forward to another wonderful year. Thank you for all of your support at home!

Sincerely,

Ms. Johanna DeLuigi