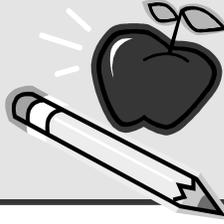


OPEN HOUSE



St. Joseph School
Ms. Turcotte
Fifth Grade

August, 2017

Fifth Grade

Meet the Teachers

Ms. Turcotte will be your fifth grader's primary teacher this year, teaching the academic subjects of Spelling, Social Studies, Language, Science and Religion. Mrs. Andrade will be teaching Math. In addition, your child will also have different teachers for the "specials" (Spanish, Computers, Art, and P.E.).

We are looking forward to getting to know all of you, and we are excited to be at the beginning of another school year here at St. Joseph School. Please stop in and introduce yourself sometime...our doors are always open!

Fifth Grade Philosophy

Fifth grade is a growing year. It is a year for students to learn that **THEY** can be the most important person in their own education. We let the students know that we expect them to be responsible and accountable for their own work.

We encourage parents to give students more independence in schoolwork, while still keeping an eye on their progress and work/study habits. If you have any concerns about grades, study habits, workload, or the independence of your child, please do not hesitate to set up a conference to discuss your concerns.

Study Skills

In our attempt to help your child become an independent learner, one of the key focuses in fifth grade is the acquiring of good study skills and habits. A variety of different organizational and study skills are modeled and implemented in class together and assigned to students independently. Students are encouraged to choose the skills and habits that work best with their learning styles and to continue their use beyond teacher directives.

Login to ParentsWeb

ParentsWeb is the Parent accessible part of RenWeb, and is a great source of information. Grades will be updated by Friday of each week and should be viewed before signing the Weekly Assignments Report (Green Sheet).

Although we do our best to keep the RenWeb homework section updated, it may not always accurately reflect the homework assignments for the day. Our schedules and plans need to remain flexible due to many factors. These include surprise drills/activities, occurrence of school-wide events, student performance/struggles, and teacher evaluation of classroom readiness. For this reason, the assignment book listing of homework should be considered the most up-to-date homework assignments. If you are ever concerned that your child is not writing down all assignments, check with RenWeb and the teacher.

5th Grade Policies

Classroom Policies were sent home with fifth grade students. Please make sure to read them over, as these will give you a good idea of my expectations. If you have any questions concerning the policies, please feel free to discuss them with me.

A Weekly Assignments Report policy was also sent home with every student last week. *Please read it carefully with your child and keep the "Parent's Copy" posted somewhere for reference throughout the year.* If you have any questions concerning the policy, do not hesitate to ask.

Parent Conferences

We are always willing to discuss your child's progress or any other concerns with you. Simply drop us a note, leave a message at the office, or stop in after dismissal to set up a time for a conference. We feel that good communication is necessary to give consistent reinforcement of our expectations to all students.

Please note that morning time, right before assembly, is not a good time to discuss problems/concerns. Teachers and students have a lot to do during that time, and we will not be able to give you the time and attention your concerns deserve.

Reminder to Parents

All drivers for field trips **must** be cleared to drive. If you feel you may be able to drive on any field trips this year, we strongly urge you to get clearance *now*. Please be aware that if you have not been cleared by the time you receive notice of a field trip, chances are you will not be cleared in time to drive.

To be cleared, parents must have watched the compliance DVD (this changes from year to year, so make sure you are up to date), signed the compliance attestation, have fingerprint clearance, and must have copies of current driver's license and insurance on file. Field trips will only be possible if we have enough cleared drivers, so please consider beginning the process as soon as possible. We thank all volunteers for helping maintain the safety of all St. Joseph students.

Math Facts

Help your child succeed in Math by continuing to practice the multiplication and division facts throughout the year. Although students may have learned these in earlier grades, they quickly lose their automatic recall if they do not continue to practice regularly. I have found that a **key** factor in the success of students in fifth grade math is their ability to quickly and accurately recall their math facts. Practicing of facts should be ongoing.

Fifth Grade Website

Please make sure to check out the fifth grade website: tinaturcottesaintjoseph.weebly.com/ The home page of this website serves as a classroom newsletter which is updated weekly. As well you will find curriculum pages that tell you what Ms. Turcotte has planned each week, links to helpful websites, upcoming events, copies of our policies and other school related links. The homework pages are updated daily and can help parents keep up with assignments (although this should not be used as a replacement for the student agendas, as recording homework correctly is a skill all students should learn to do effectively).

Parent Volunteers

Although in 5th grade we do not use many, we do use some parent volunteers that are ready on a fairly regular basis. If you are available or think you could be helpful, please let me know.

Diocesan Grading Scale

A+ = 97-100

B+ = 87-89

C+ = 77-79

D+ = 68-69

A = 94-96

B = 84-86

C = 74-76

D = 67

A- = 90-93

B- = 80-83

C- = 70-73

D- = 65-66