

June 14, 2017

♥ Welcome to ♥ 5th Grade

Dear Parents,

As your children begin the transition from fourth to fifth grade, we'd like to reach out and tell you a bit about our fifth grade program. Here at Inter-Lakes, fifth grade is the beginning of the middle school level. In the middle school model, we use a team teaching approach, and students begin to move in groupings between teachers. As this is a new model for many students entering fifth grade, we gradually ease into the system in the first weeks of school. Each student's homeroom teacher is listed on the June progress report. In the first week of the new school year, students will remain much of the time in the homeroom, getting to know each other, establishing routines, and building community. We will begin academic rotations gradually in the second and third week of school. Students will be guided and supported throughout this process.

"Academic rotations" means that students will travel between three classrooms for learning in specific subject areas. Mrs. Hird is the math teacher, Mr. Reidy the science/social studies teacher, Mrs. Browner the writing teacher, and Ms. Sullivan is the learning specialist for math and language arts. Reading will be taught in homeroom classes, by each teacher. Students will participate in community-based activities in their homeroom class in the beginning, middle, and end of each day. This helps create "bookends" around the day, in order that students can connect with their homeroom teacher for support and guidance- academically, organizationally, and socially. A copy of our schedule outline is attached on the back of this letter.

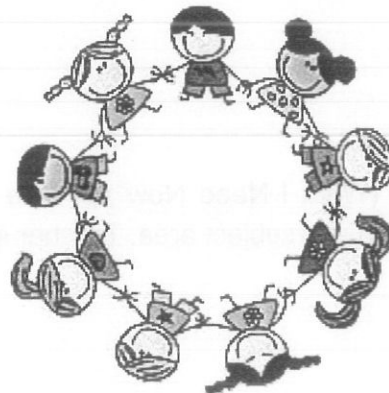
We have also attached a list of materials needed for fifth grade students. We are providing planners and home/school folders, and will guide students in using these organizational tools daily. Additional information can be found at our webpage:

<https://sites.google.com/interlakes.org/grade5/home> .

This can be also be accessed through the Inter-Lakes Middle Tier website, in the "Teacher Web Pages" menu. Please contact us with any questions about our fifth grade program. We are very much looking forward to an exciting 2017-2018 school year, with a fantastic group of students! We wish everyone a wonderful summer!

Sincerely,

Juli Hird
Paula Sullivan
Dan Reidy
Patty Browner



**5th Grade Schedule
2017-2018**

Students will rotate through academic blocks in homeroom groups.

8:15 Arrival & Morning Meeting
8:35 Specials (in homeroom groups)
9:25 Rotation Block 1 Hird homeroom - math Reidy homeroom- writing Browher homeroom- science/social studies
10: 30 snack
10:40 Rotation Block 2 Browher homeroom- math Reidy homeroom- science/ss Hird homeroom- writing
11:50 Lunch/Recess
12:35 WINN*
1:00 Rotation Block 3 Reidy homeroom- math Hird homeroom- science/ss Browher homeroom- writing
1:50 Reading (in homeroom classes)
Dismissal

*WINN: (What I Need Now") A time for individual students to fix/finish/extend their learning as needed- in any subject area. Teacher input and guidance is provided.

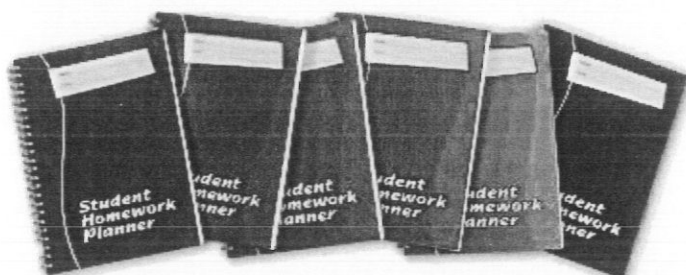
2017-2018 Fifth Grade Materials List

We will provide students with Home/School Folders and Planners!



Every 5th grader will receive these on the first day of school. The folder has 2 pockets, center sleeve fasteners, and a sturdy vinyl cover. This will be used for keeping work organized as it travels between home and school. Please do not purchase 3-ring binders. The planner will be used to record assignments each day.

Please bring in \$3 on the first day of school, for the planner. Checks should be made out to **Inter-Lakes Middle Tier**. The home/school folders will be provided to students, free of charge.



Please provide your child with:

- Four 2-pocket folders (for reading, writing, science, and social studies)
- A 3-subject notebook- for writing/spelling/grammar studies
- A soft, zippered pencil case, labeled with the student's name
- OPTIONAL: colored pencils, #2 pencils, extra erasers, pencil sharpener, pen, washable markers (We do have these in the classroom.)