Dear Parents,

We hope to see you next week at Back to School Night. Please join us on Tuesday, September 10 at 6:30 pm. There will be a brief PTA meeting in the gym and grade level sessions for each grade. 5th Grade will be meeting in Mrs. Wilcoxson’s room, # 122.

Picture order forms are in Friday Folders this week. Please return these before Monday, September 16 if interested in ordering. Pictures will be taken on Monday, September 16.

Science: Mr. Earls
We are continuing to work with Matter and Energy in Ecosystems objectives and the Nature Unleashed program. Topics we should be getting familiar with are:
- whether something is living or non-living
- the characteristics of living things
- understanding the terms organism, population, community and ecosystem

We will next be looking at these items within the pond, forest and prairie ecosystems and begin identifying organisms as producers, consumers, or decomposers in ecosystems
The terminology we are covering is chapter 1 in the Nature Unleashed book can be accessed online at http://nature.mdc.mo.gov/sites/default/files/downloads/Nature_Unleashed_student.pdf

Social Studies: Mrs. Wilcoxson
Where in the world is Mrs. Wilcoxson? Good question......the kids have been learning how to use latitude and longitude to locate places in the world. They are pretty good at this and we will continue to practice this every week. We have also reviewed landforms and the kids will be creating map of our Fairview place including the woods that lead to the pond next week. We will plan on going outside on Monday and a couple of other days depending on the weather. They will be looking for landforms that are in our space and including a map key and using symbols for the correct landforms
They have been reviewing the continents and oceans and will have a quiz over their locations and spellings in a couple of weeks. Watch the Agenda for the date of the quiz.

Writing: Ms. Holman
During our writing time together, we have continued to work with our Writer’s Notebook. The book Amelia’s Notebook by Marissa Moss has guided us through the initial set-up of our individual notebooks. This notebook has also served as a tool for various mini-lessons throughout the past several class sessions. For example, when it comes to putting books together, we have explored meaningful creations and connections of front and back covers of books, dedication pages, copyright information and publication content. The students have done a fantastic job of putting together a wonderful piece of their own including these elements. Please talk to your student about their notebook and ask for the name of their publication company!
In addition, we took our first (of many) Ten Minute Quick Write(s). The thinking behind this particular activity is to create fluidity in our writing. Once we are given a writing prompt, students are working on quickly gathering their ideas, organizing their thoughts, and writing fluently while gaining stamina along the way! No instruction was given before, during or after this first “quick write,” as I will be using this one as a baseline to gather information to move forward. A copy of this writing piece can be found in your child’s Friday Folder!

**Math: Mrs. Everett**

Our recent math goals have been:

- Find the area of a rectangle with one fractional side length: example: find the area of a rectangle with the length of 2 units and the width of 3 1/3 units.
- Identify how many square fractional units it takes to make one square unit: example: it takes four, ½ square units to make 1 square unit, it takes nine, 1/3 square units to make one square unit, it takes sixteen, ¼ square units to make one square unit. (There was a homework, Home Link 1- 4 about farm fields to practice this in addition to class practice.)
- Identify objects with volume: examples: any 3D object
- Use cubes to find volume, use length times width times height to find volume
- Using length x width x height or base x height to find volume

**Coming Up:**

Finding volume of a figure made of several rectangular prisms

I am attaching, to the electronic newsletter, a practice test. It is quite a few pages long. It is very similar to our Unit 1 test. If possible, you can print and look over the practice test with your child throughout the unit. I also attached an answer key at the end of the test for you to use as needed to help your student. Please know the actual test is more clearly laid out and has bigger print. The practice test is very small font for some reason. The Math homework sheets also have problems similar to those on the test. I hope to give the test sometime the week of Sept. 23.

I am enjoying getting to know the students and learning where they are with their Math skills! I notice in class some students do not know their basic multiplication, and division facts. Please ask your child some of these at home to check and practice as needed.

Have a great weekend!

Sincerely,

The 5th Grade Team
Fairview Elementary School

[Links to individual names]

Brian Earls
Laurie Everett
Tiffany Holman
Renee Wilcoxson