

## Parent Information for 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Math 2010

Welcome to 5th Grade Math. This is just to give you some information about my class and my expectations.

**Homework:** Expect homework every night, including weekends. I post my assignments on [www.schoolnotes.com](http://www.schoolnotes.com) along with planned quizzes and tests.

My homework is, however, subject to change if we don't progress during the week as I plan. The students should not use the posting on school notes as a substitute for copying their homework assignment from the board. The students should be recording their assignments in an assignment notebook. Everyone should have an assignment book to use for this. During the first month of school, I will be spot checking to make sure students are copying assignments. I use homework to give the students practice at the skills and concepts learned in class. I also use the homework to measure the individual student's grasp of the skills and concepts. The notebook containing class work and homework should come home daily so your child can refer to the class work for help with homework. If your child is unable to complete the homework even using the class work and with some minimal help from you, please write a note on the homework page to let me know that your child is having trouble with this topic. I do not "grade" homework as if it were a test, so errors on the homework do not count against the student. We do go over homework together every day, and I expect the students to correct homework errors.

**Quizzes:** I usually give quizzes approximately every 5 or 6 lessons. My quizzes usually coincide with the checkpoint sections in the book with red topped pages. They are designated "Section Review and Diagnostic Checkpoints" Once you have seen and signed a graded quiz, the quiz should be kept in the back of the students' math section in the notebook. If you have an extra divider, they can separate the quizzes from the Homework/Class work. They can use the quizzes to help prep for the tests. So they need to make sure they correct errors on the quizzes.

**Tests:** I will give 5th grade two tests per chapter. The first test will cover approximately the first half of the chapter. The second test will be the "book" test which is cumulative for the chapter. If a chapter is very long or the material is very difficult, I may add an additional test before the "book" test.

**Notebook Tests:** Twice each marking period I will give a notebook test. This is simply a check of their notebooks and counts as a homework/class work grade. The questions ask them to give answers to specific questions on homework identified by date. For example: "On homework from 9/3, p.57 what is the answer to # 2?" This requires them to do their homework; correct it in class; head the pages in their notebook with the appropriate date and page assignment. I expect students who miss class to make up homework. In the event of extended illness, I will make adjustments.

**Notebooks:** The notebooks should be organized in chronological order. For example, the class work of 8/31 followed by homework of 8/31 followed by class work of 9/1, followed by home work of 9/1. Any handouts or learning aids should be kept with the class work for the day they were distributed and used.

**Tutorial:** I am available for extra help after school two afternoons each week: Monday and Thursday from 3:40 until about 4:30. During this time I can help students who need a little more explanation with specific problem areas. Because I often have students from all grade levels I am unable to give individual students intense one-on-one tutoring. I am able to assist with homework and clear up confusion and/or misunderstanding. Students also may use this time to make up work missed due to absences. Tests and quizzes cannot be made up during class time.

Please encourage your child to master the multiplication facts through 12 x 12. All 5th graders should be able to complete a 100 fact test in 4 minutes. Immediate recall of multiplication facts is essential for success with fractions. We are practicing regularly in class, usually using a half test in two minutes. They will complete a 100 minute test for a quiz grade during the week of the first interim grade report. They will again be graded on the facts prior to the report card. They will continue to take the test until they demonstrate mastery. The test will count as a quiz grade twice each marking period until they can demonstrate mastery.

Please feel free to contact me personally to discuss your child. You may use my email, [elburkeshs67@comcast.net](mailto:elburkeshs67@comcast.net) and my home phone, 912-352-0467. I want to work with you as a team to make this year successful for your student.

Evelyn Burke