



Monday Update

December 11

Math: This week we continue our unit on Fractions (SOL 5.2), specifically focusing on equivalent fractions, converting mixed numbers to improper fractions and back again, and simplifying fractions using the GCF. Please ask your child about how they convert decimals to fractions and fractions to decimals! Have them show you an example from their spiral!

This week we will also have some fun winter-themed activities that review some concepts already taught this year - we recognize that kids are excited about break and the holidays and snow, so we are trying to meet them halfway on this :)

Science: On Wednesday we will have a test on the steps of the scientific method (SOL 5.1). Please be sure your child can **apply** the vocabulary and concepts we have studied and practiced: *hypothesis, observation, constants, independent and dependent variables, qualitative and quantitative data/observations, and conclusion.* **Please be sure to check**

Power School!

As always, please be aware: the 5th grade science SOL Test covers TWO YEARS of content! **Please help your child to spend about 20 minutes each week reading through their notes, especially the review pages from 4th grade.** Regular review of these concepts and vocabulary terms will really help them to retain and apply their knowledge!

Language Arts:

We are continuing to learn about prefixes and applying them to our reading and writing! We are going to revisit plot in fictional texts this week.

Students will not have word study this week- please enjoy this break!

Encourage your student to check for the unfinished work and stations. It would be helpful to them to have it done before break!

As always, please encourage your child to read and to find books they are interested in! They can be working on their reading challenges!

Social Studies: We have started our unit about the Geography of the United States! Mrs. Reid's class is using the iPads and ChromeBooks to research more about the 12 Southeast states, capitals, and other important points of interest. Miss Pastore's class is learning about the Southeast through research to prepare for a project!

Important Announcements:

- Aquatic Safety permission slips (there are 3 of them!) and the \$4.00 fee are due this week for our January 4 field trip!
- Winter break begins next Monday!
- Winter Parties are on Friday at 1:30-2:30
- Internet Safety News from Mrs. Yonce:

***Please read Mrs. Yonce's tips carefully! Many of our 5th graders are involved in social media and texting. We've heard some news of some unkind things happening online after school. Please monitor your child's online activity!**

Echo Lake Parents,

This spring, ELES will be hosting a free parent workshop on Internet/Social Media Safety! We're very excited about it and wanted to send out some tips leading up to the workshop that we can all use as educators and parents to help our children navigate the internet in a safe way. Here are some things parents can do to protect your child:

1. Keep computers/smart phones/tablets in an area where everyone can see the screen. Do not allow phones/computers in bedrooms.
2. Monitor online activity. Check browser history and ensure it is not being deleted.
3. Use software to filter and track online activity.
4. If you allow social media, be the first to follow and check on their profile.
5. Maximize privacy settings. Go to your network provider for help in how to best protect and limit screen time.

- Please continue to check PowerSchool regularly with your child. Don't forget to click *each* subject's grade, then look for the "missing" symbol (M) to know if an assignment has not been completed!
- Here is a link with directions for setting up your parent portal on PowerSchool!

<http://henricoschools.us/powerschool/>

- **Important IB dates to remember:**

***2/2 – Letters notifying applicants of their status are mailed out**