



September 2013

Welcome to Fifth Grade!

Hello to all families!

I'm looking forward to spending the 2013 - 2014 school year with each and every one of your students! I have no doubt that this will be a successful year for all students. Fifth graders are incredible— they're creative, passionate, opinionated, and transforming into great leaders! I can't wait to know each of them personally, and spend the year learning and growing together!

If you want to know more details about anything in this letter, see my website!
www.jordanappleyard.weebly.com

Expectations

In order to make this a successful year for each student in or classroom, I have a few general expectations laid out for the students:

Students will always do their best work. Because each student has individual needs and abilities, this will vary from student to student. But, I expect each student to do their best work at all times.

Students will be respectful of themselves, their classmates and the environment of the room. Since we will put a great deal of effort into creating a positive classroom environment, the students need to respect that.

Students will follow procedures that have been given. These procedures are created to make the learning environment safe and smooth for stu-

dents. Procedures for fire drills and lock-down drills are set for student safety and need to be followed. Our fifth grade procedures are in place to keep all classes on the same page. And, within our classroom, procedures are set to enhance students' learning.

Students will be held accountable for their actions. Since the only behavior we can truly control is our own, students must take responsibility for their behavior.

These expectations will be covered in depth with students on the first day of school to ensure a safe and successful school year!

Specials will be every

Friday morning.

- Music with Mr. Smith
- Physical Education with Mr. Redmond
- Art with Mrs. Lockwood

Curriculum

I want to give you a brief overview of the material we'll be covering over the year.

In all content areas, students will be learning and revisiting material as determined by the Common Core

Curriculum. Within each of these subjects, students will know, understand and be able to apply all the information—with the goal of being able to both analyze and evaluate the material.

If you are interested in more specifics about each content area, be sure to consult my website! This is broken down further in content area.

Teaching Philosophy

I believe that classroom environment plays an important role in students' learning experience. As a class, we will form a positive, collaborative and safe learning environment. Also, within our classroom, students will have a great deal of choice in terms of how they best work, the ways they would like to do projects, and on which books they'll read. But, we'll talk more in depth about that when we get there over the course of the year! Just know student's choice matters!

Dates to Remember

Open House	09/08
Reading MAP	09/17
Science MAP	09/19
Spirit Day	09/20
Math MAP	09/23

Behavior Plan

We will be starting out the year using Class Dojo! This is an awesome website used to track students behavior - both positive and negative. Both students and parents will have access to the child's account. A passcode will be provided during the first week of school. Then you will be able to log on and check in as often as you desire!

Any behavior issues that develop during the course of the year will be handled on an individual basis. The student will be involved in the behavior plan we set up, and the consequences for misbehavior will be logical.

