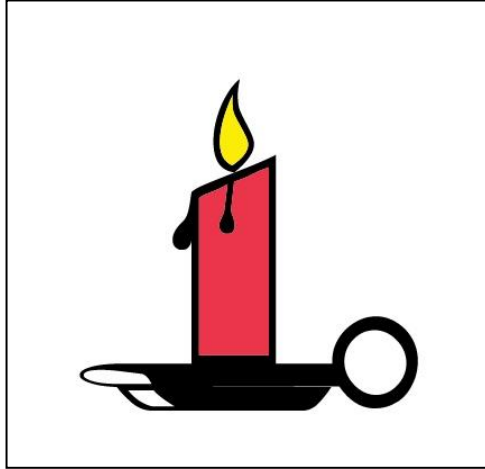


Fifth Grade Newsletter

2016

Arise and shine for your light has come! Is. 60:1



**Reading Strategies:
Summarizing, Predicting,
Questioning, and Tracking
Character Changes**

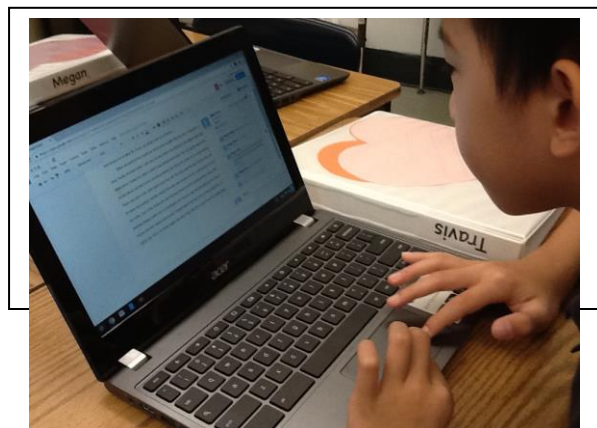


While reading our fall novel, *Hatchet*, students practiced a variety of reading strategies to better understand the themes and dramatic story developments. Students tracked main

ideas for each chapter by writing a response to "what's the big idea?" on sticky notes. This summarizing technique helps us remember plot events and changes the character undergoes as the plot unfolds.



There is also a vocabulary list associated with the novel so that students will better understand unfamiliar words as they come upon them in the text. These words can be found on Quizlet.com where students can study them with games and practice tests.



strategies such as "entertaining beginnings," multi- sensory

description, and "satisfying endings" to write a Thanksgiving or Christmas memoir. Already fifth graders have composed some descriptive poems about a variety of topics. They illustrated their poems about the colors of the rainbow with watercolor paintings!



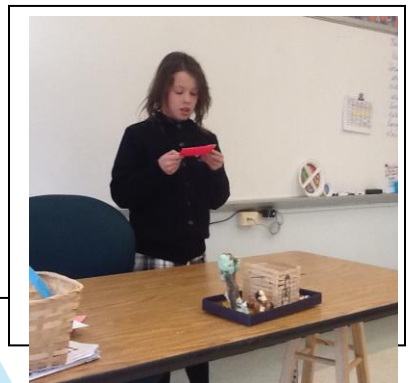
Math News

In math we have been and will continue to work on problem solving strategies, long division, division with remainders, and multiplication, and measurement. Problem solving strategies such as draw a picture or model, make an organized list, look for a pattern, guess and check, use logical reasoning, and working backwards will be stressed. The Order of Operations has been introduced to help students remember the proper order used to solve algebraic equations. PEMDAS: Parentheses, Exponents, Multiply and Divide, Add and Subtract. Several short videos showing fifth and sixth grade

students singing PEMDAS raps and songs helped us remember the order of the computational steps.

Social Studies

The first Thanksgiving in Plimoth (original spelling!) Plantation was a time of gratitude to God and to the neighborly Wampanoag tribe who helped the colonists grow food and survive their first year. The fifth graders were "virtual" tourists at the Plimoth Plantation, thanks to Scholastic's "virtual" video tours of the Mayflower, the Wampanoag homestead, and the village of Plimoth. Students presented their own models of early Native American shelters after our study of tribal groups from across the North America.

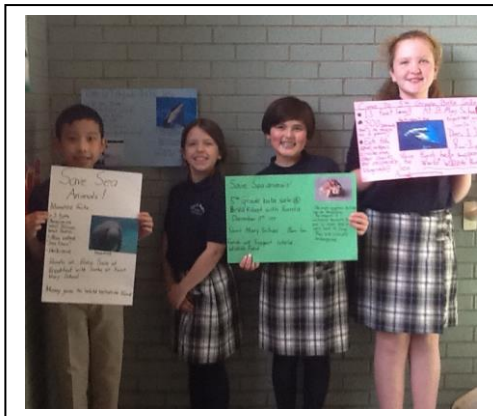


"DISCOVERY!" is a simulation which recreates in our classroom some of the hardships and excitement

experienced by early American colonists. We are learning why colonists came to North America from Europe and why geography, natural resources, and nature are so important to colonizing settlers. We have been researching and learning about famous explorers, such as Vasco da Gama and Ferdinand Magellan.

Science

In science, after completing our investigations and research into nutrition and health, we will begin to learn about how scientists think, what they do when they conduct investigations, and how the scientific



method leads to discoveries. Best of all, the fifth graders are learning about particular sea animals that are endangered and getting ready for their "Save the Sea Animals" bake sale. The bake sale table will be prominently displayed at the "Breakfast with Santa" event Sunday, December 11 at St. Mary School. All funds from the bake sale will be donated to the World Wildlife Fund.

We are looking forward to the Christmas Season and our advent meditations, prayers, and instruction.

"The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; a light has dawned on those living in the land of darkness."

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel....

Note to Parents about Math Homework

Please allow your children to work no longer than 30 minutes on their math homework. I need to be able to judge both the amount I assign and the individual differences in the students' capabilities to practice the lesson of the day.

Have a wonderful, happy, and safe Christmas! Mrs. Delahunt and the Fifth Graders

More Fifth Grade Highlights!

At the CT Audubon Center at Milford Point



Calling all Saints for the Saints Parade!

Some of our favorite things!

