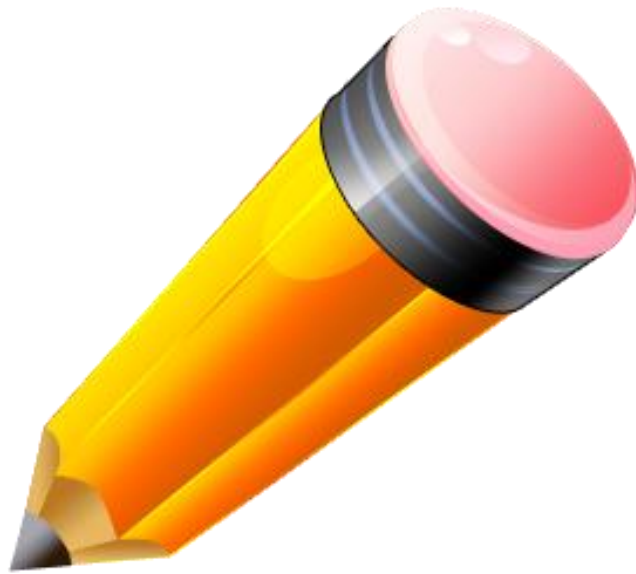


Welcome to Fifth Grade

RED TEAM



2011-2012

Dear Families:

We would like to take a moment and welcome you to a new school year. We are very excited about teaching your child this year. Fifth grade is an important year and you will be amazed at all of the things your child will be doing. Throughout this school year, students will learn the curriculum while utilizing different learning styles, how to interact in various sized groups, and learn a variety of life skills they will use in their future. Below we have listed several items to help you know what to expect this year and hopefully answer any questions you may have.



About the Teachers

5A

Welcome to the Red Team5A! My name is Mrs. Heather Meade and I am starting my fourth year of teaching fifth grade in Minooka. I am a graduate of Northern Illinois University and recently completed my Master of Arts in Education, Reading Specialist degree at University of Saint Francis. In my spare time, I enjoy baking, reading and scrap booking. I am looking forward to a new school year with new challenges and triumphs for us all!

5B

Welcome to 5B! My name is Terri Hall, and this is my 15th year teaching in Minooka. Prior to 5th grade, I taught 3rd grade for five years at Minooka Elementary. My husband and I just celebrated our 34th wedding anniversary. I have two wonderful children, a lovely daughter-in-law, and a beautiful grandson. My hobbies include counted cross-stitch needlework, riding my bike, and reading. I am looking forward to working with and getting to know your children this year.

5C

Welcome to 5C! My name is Ms. Kim Kolodziej and I am starting my third year of teaching fifth grade in Minooka, however, it is my fourth year teaching overall. My first teaching job was in Aurora where I did my student teaching and also taught 4th grade for a year. I am a graduate of Eastern Illinois University. I love to read, watching and participating in all different sports (particularly the Chicago Cubs), and I have been busy planning my upcoming wedding for June 2012. I'm looking forward to another great year and working with which and every one of you!

5D

Hello. My name is Sarah Setiadi. I started teaching fifth grade at the old Minooka Intermediate, now the Minooka Primary Center, four years ago, and then moved to this building where I have been teaching fifth grade ever since. I obtained my teaching degree from North Central College in Naperville, IL where I also received certification as a Reading Teacher. I was married this summer. My husband and I live in Lisle where we enjoy spending time outside riding local bike paths, harvesting our vegetable garden, and remodeling our old, very 1960s home!

Resource

Welcome to the 5th grade Red Team! I would like to take this time to introduce myself. My name is Mrs. Robin Weatherbee. This is my sixth year teaching fifth grade Special Education. I live in Dwight and attended Coal City Schools. I am a graduate of the University of St. Francis and the Olivet Nazarene University. This past summer, I was busy running the Camp Math and Camp Read program at the Grundy County Special Education Cooperative and running all over the Chicago land area with my two children. In my spare time, I enjoy, reading, hiking, biking, shopping, and baking. I am looking forward to a great year and working with your children and family!!



Lockers

Starting in fifth grade, students will house a majority of their belongings in their lockers in an effort to get students organized, responsible, and prepared for switching all classes in sixth grade. Students will be given specific times to go to their lockers to get their necessary belongings for class. By the end of the year, the goal is for students to have all belongings in their locker just like they will in sixth grade.



Switching Classes

You may have noticed that your child has a different math teacher or literacy/language arts teacher in addition to our homeroom. In the event you have questions or concerns with regard to these specific classes, please notify that teacher.



Classroom Expectations

The classroom must be a place where students feel safe and secure in order for them to learn. It should be a place where students learn to become responsible for themselves. For this reason, we have the following classroom expectations and consequences. Our team expectations are:

Follow instructions the first time given

Insist on always doing your best and having a positive attitude

Foster a sense of preparedness, responsibility, and organization

Talk at the proper time while using appropriate language

Have respect for yourself and others



Homework

When homework is assigned, it is expected to be completed and returned the following day, unless previously stated (long term project or assignment). Students should typically not have more than 40-50 minutes of homework a night, as long as they are using their class time wisely. It is your student's responsibility to be aware of their assignments and due dates and record these deadlines in their assignment notebook. Students who do not return homework when it is due will face additional penalties (lunch detention, after school detention, a loss of points, administrative detention, and/or Saturday school).

In addition to any work assigned to students, please encourage your child to read for at least 20 minutes each night and practice their math facts.

We will notify you in writing, email, or by telephone if your son or daughter is consistently forgetting or not completing his or her assignments.

Students may pick up absent work when they return to school. They will have one day per day they are absent to make up their work. For example: If your child is absent Monday and Tuesday and returns to school on Wednesday, they will have until first thing Friday morning to turn in all of their absent work.

If your child would like to request work for vacations/extended absences, a note or an email must be given to each of your child's teachers 5 days prior to the anticipated absence. If work is requested, it is expected that it will be completed upon returning to school.



Consequences

In the event your child fails to meet our team expectations, the following consequences will be given.

1. Verbal Warning
2. Parent Communication
3. Detention/Student Behavior Plan

****Please note for severe disruptions this order may not be followed.****



Late Work and Missing Materials

By fifth grade we do expect our students to be on time for class as well as coming prepared with all necessary materials. We do realize mistakes do happen which is why your child will be given 4 chances within a quarter. The fifth time your child is either late to class and/or does not come prepared with necessary materials, in one quarter, he or she will receive an after school detention.



Monthly Rewards

In addition to our quarterly reward parties the Red Team will also be having monthly reward parties. These rewards will be a smaller scale to what the quarter rewards will be. Some of the things your child might be doing during these reward parties include: Wii, X-Box, board games and more! They will take place the last Friday of each month at the end of the day. In order to earn the monthly reward party your child must meet the following requirements:

- No late or missing assignments for the month
- No afterschool detentions, administrative detentions, Saturday school, and/or in or out of school suspensions.
- Earning at least a 76% or higher in EVERY class by the Wednesday prior to the monthly reward party.



Cough Drops

If your child needs to take cough drops during the school day it will only be allowed if a note is given to your child's homeroom teacher.



Snack

Our team eats lunch at 12:00. This makes for a very long morning, therefore, students can keep a small snack in their locker, in an effort to keep students energized and engaged in our morning activities. Each student is responsible for bringing their own healthy snack. Chips, cookies, and candy are prohibited.

In addition to a small snack, students may bring a water bottle filled with water for their locker as well. Students will not be allowed to bring in flavored water or packets to flavor their water. If your child will be utilizing a reusable water bottle, please ensure it is brought home on a regular basis to get washed.

Examples of appropriate snacks include:

- Fruit (canned with juices drained, fresh & pre-cut, or dried)
- Dry Cereal
- Crackers-goldfish, saltines, pretzels, etc.
- Vegetables (pre-cut)
- Cheese
- Yogurt
- Bagels
- Plain Popcorn



Birthdays

Birthdays are a special time in a child's life. A small treat is welcome for each student, but must be approved. A form for bringing treats to school must be filled out three days prior to distribution and approved by the school principal or nurse. The form may be obtained from our school office and is also online at www.min201.org. As per Health Department guidelines, no food made at home may be handed out to students. Food items must be individually wrapped.

If your child has a summer birthday that he/she would like to celebrate, please contact your child's homeroom teacher so that we are able to arrange a date to celebrate your child's summer birthday.



Assignment Notebooks

One way to foster communication between home and school, as well as help keep students organized and responsible, is to utilize the assignment notebook. Each student is issued an assignment notebook at the beginning of the school year. Assignment notebooks are to be filled out at school daily at the end of each class.



Help from Home

We are looking forward to working with you and your child this year and helping him/her to achieve his/her full potential. As a parent, you can do a great deal to help your student succeed. Here are some strategies that can be used through the year:

- Encourage your child to read for at least 20 minutes each night and practice their math facts.
- Encourage your child to do his or her homework on a regular basis. Provide a regular place and time to do homework.
- Have your child show you his or her work and explain to you what he or she has been doing in class.
- Help him or her to be more organized. Look for sections in their notebook that contain class notes, vocabulary, homework, and assessment pieces.
- Have your child explain the words in the vocabulary list or the solution to a problem.
- Encourage your child by explaining that you believe that he or she can succeed through trying and working hard.
- **DO NOT** throw anything away from your child's accordion unless it is from the Take Home section.
- Majority of the work will come home on Monday's.



TeacherEase

Throughout the school year, you may access your child's grades through TeacherEase. You may access TeacherEase on the Minooka School District website or directly at <http://www.teacherease.com/>. If you are not already signed up for TeacherEase, you may find instructions off of the District website, or notify your homeroom teacher.



Newsletters/Announcements

You will be receiving an electronic copy of Mr. King's weekly newsletter each Friday through Teacherease. The Red Team will be sending classroom specific announcements for tests, projects, and/or assignments through Teacherease as well. Therefore, it is extremely beneficial to have Teacherease.



Website

Each teacher from the Red Team has their own webpage. You can access their webpage by putting in the following address for your teacher or go through the Minooka Intermediate School homepage..

<http://www.min201.org/~hmeade/>

<http://www.min201.org/~thall/>

<http://www.min201.org/~kkolodziej/>

<http://www.min201.org/~ssetiadi/>



Communication

We look forward to working with you and your son/daughter this year. Please contact us anytime you have a question or concern. Questions or concerns may be addressed to us through notes, emails, or phone calls (school phone: 815-467-4692)

Extensions: Mrs. Meade 2201

Mrs. Hall 2202

Ms. Kolodziej 2203

Mrs. Setiadi 2204

Mrs. Weatherbee 2225

Every effort will be made to get back with you in a timely manner. We are looking forward to a great year!

Class Schedule

7:35 Bell to begin class

7:50- 9:35 Literacy

9:35-10:00 Physical Education

10:05-10:45 Writing

10:50- 11:20 Social Studies

11:25-12:00 Fine Arts

12:00-12:30 Lunch

12:35- 1:45 Math

1:50- 2:25 Science

We are excited about this school year and its potential for helping your child develop strong knowledge and skills. If you have any questions or concerns at any time during the year, please feel free to contact us! We look forward to meeting you at our upcoming Expectation Night/Open House on August 29th from 6-7:30 p.m.

Sincerely,

The Fifth Grade Red Team

Mrs. Meade

Mrs. Hall

Ms. Kolodziej

Mrs. Setiadi

Mrs.. Weatherbee

SIGN AND RETURN

I have read and reviewed the attached packet with my son/daughter.

Parent/Guardian Signature _____

Student Signature _____

Date _____

****Please return to your homeroom teacher by Monday, August 29th. If you have questions regarding the information in this packet please bring them to Expectations Night Monday evening at 6:00.****