

MATH

Our school district has adopted a new math series called Math Expressions by Houghton Mifflin. It is a student-centered series that encourages real-world problem solving. Our students are encouraged to develop multiple approaches to solving the basic math processes.

In place of textbooks, the children have consumable activity books. Look for the Homework and Remembering book to come home as well. It is typically used for homework assignments. To help with homework, encourage your child to also bring home the activity book, which shows problems that we worked on in class and provides a complete glossary.

To be successful with 5th grade math, it is **MANDATORY** that your child masters the basic facts of addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division (100 problems each in FOUR minutes or less). Your help is extremely important in accomplishing this goal.

The following is the free website that supports Math Expressions:

<http://www.eduplace.com>

SCIENCE

Experimenting and “hands-on” experiences are emphasized with our science kits. Units taught in fifth grade include: *Circulation & Respiration, Birds and Flight, Environments, and Variables.*

HEALTH

Health units are taught alongside our science curriculum. We will begin the year with a review of pedestrian, bike, and bus safety. Life skills lessons are being taught by Mrs. Leisen, our school counselor.

SOCIAL STUDIES

As we begin our study of American history, we will focus on early North American history.

Additional units of study will include: explorers and settlers who came to the New World, a background to the American Revolution and the resulting War for Independence, and life in the New England, Middle, and Southern Colonies as they provide the background for our Civil War.