



September News

September 2023

Dear Families,

Every month I will try to send home a newsletter with school and classroom information. I plan to send both an electronic and paper copy. I will also post newsletters on our classroom website. If you would like to add, change, or delete an email address, please let me know. Below is information about open house, academics, and grade level shirts.

Open House: The Open House for grades 4 and 5 will take place on Wednesday, September 20 from 6-8pm. (This is also an early release day for students.) Families can visit classrooms, meet teachers, and attend the Book Fair at any time during the 2 hour session. I will not be giving a formal talk but a slideshow with information will be running throughout the evening.

Math: Heron Pond is in the process of piloting new math programs. We currently use *Everyday Math* but units from two different programs will be integrated throughout the year. Please note that some of the math routines might fluctuate when we explore these programs. Students should receive math homework nightly (Monday - Thursday) except on testing days. A Family Letter is sent home at the beginning of each math unit with more information and Home Link help. In grade 5, **we start with Unit 2 in the *Everyday Math Program* to review multiplication and division before returning to Unit 1. We often add supplemental lessons to help solidify multiplication and division skills before moving on.** I collect and check all math Home Links and supplemental homework pages daily. If your child is having difficulty, just make a note on the assignment and we will review the following day. Students will receive these homework pages back as a “study packet” along with a Self-Assessment prior to each test to help them review for the Unit Assessment. We will also be using the online programs *Happy Numbers* and *Khan Academy* to support our math work.

Language Arts: In our first language arts module we will explore the Dust Bowl and Great Depression era using the anchor text *Esperanza Rising*. Students will also use the *Words Their Way* and *Lexia* programs for additional spelling, fluency, grammar, and vocabulary instruction. We will read and study a novel each month. Our first novel is *Flying Solo* by Ralph Fletcher. In writing, students will focus on the writing process and writing narratives for the first trimester.

Science/Social Studies: Students will focus on one Science or Social Studies unit at a time. These units usually transition every month and are often integrated into the Language Arts curriculum. In social studies, students will start with *Mexico & Canada* then study *Watery Planet* in science which supports our exploration of the Dust Bowl.

I currently do not have details about Parent-Teacher Conferences. Once the dates are available, I will send out information about how to sign up for a conference time using Sign Up Genius. This

newsletter, as well as other information, can be found on our classroom website at the Heron Pond main page under “Departments, Grade 5, Mrs. Anneser.” As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please contact me. I can be reached via a note, phone (673-1811 ext. 2904), or email at allison.anneser@milfordk12.org.

I hope you will be able to attend Open House on **Wednesday, September 20**. I look forward to seeing you then.

Thank you,
Mrs. Anneser

Reminders:

- Wed., Sept. 20 – Early Release & Open House Grades 4 & 5 (6 - 8 pm)
- Wed., Sept 27 - Thurs., Sept 28 - Grade 5 NWEA fall testing