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Independence Christian School

Guide to Fifth Grade

2011-2012

Mrs. Monarres

Welcome to Fifth Grade

I have an exciting and challenging year of learning planned for fifth graders, and with your prayers and support I am sure each child will have a successful year.

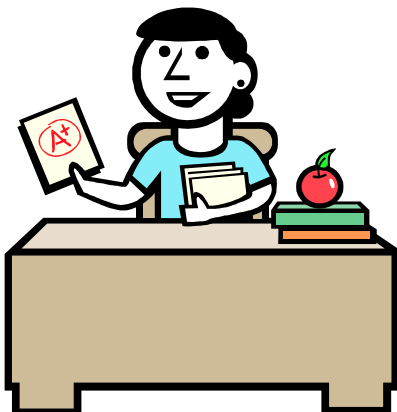
Please keep this booklet for reference throughout the year. It contains information about the curriculum, school supplies, homework, field trips, and rules.

I believe that everyone is created in the image of God and is given special talents, abilities, and gifts. With loving discipline, I shall strive to bring out the students strength and to train them according to their needs.

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns. I'm looking forward to getting to know you.

In His Service

Mrs. Monarres



Course

Below is a brief description of what each subject covers, the frequency of homework, and the basis for grading. Changes may occur because of holiday, special events or trips.

Bible

We will survey the wisdom and prophecy sections of the Bible. With an emphasis on the book of Proverbs, the life of Christ in the book of Matthew, and how to live out our faith. Homework – study for weekly verse test; read the Bible
Grade – Bible verse tests, quizzes, and class participation.

Reading

We shall read many types of literature compiled in our textbook (Pages in My Head). Classroom activities and an accompanying workbook will help improve their reading skills, comprehension, critical thinking, study skills, and appreciation of literature. Homework – monthly book reports (October – February), so students should read their books daily. Books should contain approximately 150 pages (unless specified by teacher). Grade – book reports, oral reading, reading comprehension, and workbook assignments.

Spelling

List will be composed of 20-25 words, which may emphasize phonics rules, high frequency words, and/ or words from the Bible and textbooks. Students will also need to study the definitions of vocabulary words when they are assigned. Tests will be given on Friday.

Homework – worksheets and completing assignments in book; study for tests.

Grade – tests and homework.

Language

We will be focusing on writing and its components (i.e. structure, forms, punctuation, grammar, parts of speech).

Students will be tested as we complete each unit.

Homework – 1-2 times per week.

Grade – tests, classwork and writing.

History

We will study the history of America and the world during the 20th century, as well as geography and the Declaration of Independence. Test will be given at the end of each chapter.

First quarter – Memorize the Declaration of Independence, and write a report about one of the signers. Fourth quarter – Write a research paper after taking notes and making an outline and bibliography. The project will also include a map, a flag, illustrations, etc.

Homework – Complete class work and some additional worksheets; study for tests.

Grade – tests, quizzes, homework, and projects.

Math

We will be mastering the fundamental operations, and applying them to decimals, fractions, and equations. We will also learn more about English and metric measures, graphs, and geometry. There will be a test or quiz once a week.

Homework – Complete lessons not completed in class; study

math facts.

Grade – tests, quizzes, and daily lessons.

Science

We shall begin our investigation of God’s world by studying plants and insects. Other areas to be studied this year are mammals, other vertebrates, geology, the ocean, energy and engines, astronomy, and weather. God’s wisdom and planning will be highlighted throughout the course. Tests will be given as we complete each chapter.

Homework – completing comprehension checks if they are not complete in class, studying for quizzes and test; project during 4th quarter.

Grade – tests, quizzes, homework, and project.

Penmanship

Grades will be determined by neatness, legibility, improvement, and effort on writing done in all subjects, as well as on penmanship assignments and tests.

Homework

Homework will be assigned on Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday. In addition, any class work assignment not completed in class must be finished at home. Students must take their homework sheets home; and parents sign the homework sheet Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday after homework is completed. Homework must be turned in each morning, and notebooks are checked for signatures. Any

student not having homework will lose points and may stay in during recess to do it.

Graded

Graded work will be sent home every Monday (or more often if deemed necessary). Any test papers with a grade lower than 70% will need to be signed and returned the following school day. Some papers will be kept for display in the classroom and sent home later.

Make-Up Work

If the office has been informed of an absence by 9:00 am (the day of the absence) make-up work will be ready for pick up in the daycare room by 3:15 pm., if requested. Make-up days allowed for excused absences are equal to the days missed. At the teacher's discretion, not all class work needs to be make up from an extensive absence, nor will it adversely affect the grade.

Field Trips

Our field trips for the year will add greatly to what we are learning in science, history, music, art and Bible. Parents will receive information about the fieldtrips well in advance. I encourage parents to join us as chaperones. Whenever possible, we will ride the school bus. Genesis Outdoor Education – Genesis Outdoor Education is a comprehensive outdoor science camp ministry, which takes place at Angeles

Crest Christian Camp. The camp reinforces the year's science curriculum with a Biblical perspective. A non-refundable deposit will be required from the parents in October. Amount and date will be announced. This experience is a high point in the fifth grade, is educationally invaluable, and should not be missed. We will need parents to drive us to and from the camp.

Supplies

Students will need these supplies readily available throughout the year:

NIV Bible

6 pocket folders

College ruled notebook paper (3 packs)

#2 pencils and erasers (1 box per quarter)

Red & black pens – 1 box of each

Crayons and colored pencils (markers are optional)

3x5 index cards

2-3 highlighter pens

Scissors

Ruler

Glue sticks

2 Spiral notebooks (for notes)

White glue

2 boxes of tissue & 2 rolls of paper towels

Parties

Our class will have a variety of parties during this school year. Some will be earned by students, and some will go along with holidays or what we are studying in class. If you want to do something to celebrate your child's birthday at school, please check with me in advance. We can then set aside a few minutes during recess, lunch time, or at the end of the day. If you wish to distribute birthday party invitations, please do so at the end of the school day, and EVERY student in class must be invited.

Rules

1. Follow direction, the first time.
2. Respect others & their property in words & actions.
3. Raise your hand to speak, and wait to be called on.
4. Keep your hands, feet, and objects to yourself.
5. Come to class prepared, and complete all assignments on time each day. They may receive extra points if they are "caught being good". Students may use points to "buy" a special privilege or reward. Some of these include: stickers, prizes from the treasure chest, and supplies, other gift items, taking off shoes in class, and special requests, such as going to lunch with the teacher. If students do not follow the rules, they will receive consequences as follows: 1st time – warning, 2nd time – 10 minutes time out, 3rd time – 20 minutes time out 4th time – parent notification 5th time – referral. The teacher may choose a

consequence that fits the offense more appropriately than the above. Severe occurrences such as fighting, defiance, or profanity are also referred to the principal.

Communication

Feel free to contact me @ kmonarres@me.com if you have any concerns or questions.

Excused and Unexcused Absence and Tardy Procedures

All children who have been absent, must return to school with a note (explaining their absence) in order to return to class. A written request is required for all pre-planned absences and must be approved by Mr. Cushing at least one-week in advance.

Unexcused absences:

Family vacation

Trips to Disneyland

Family visiting from out of town-etc.

Remember, ALL requests must be in writing with at least one-week advance notice. NO EXCEPTIONS.

Excused absences:

Illness

Death in the family

Medical or Dental emergency

All students arriving at school after 8:30 am are considered late and must go to the office for an admittance slip. **An adult must accompany late students to the office.**

I am aware of the Absence & Tardy procedures.

Parent name _____

Student name _____ Date _____

Return to school by September 30th, 2011.

