Welcome Back to School CMES Mustangs!

The **ABCs** of 5th Grade

2022-2023 School Year

| A- All About Us | Room 11- Mrs. Williams: Math, Content  
|                | lwilliams31@bcps.org  
|                | Room 13- Ms. Brier: ELA/Writing, Content  
|                | jbrier@bcps.org  
|                | Room 10- Mrs. Macchia: ELA/Writing  
|                | nmacchia@bcps.org  
|                | Penthouse- Mrs. Bark: All Subjects  
|                | kbark@bcps.org |

| B- Back to School Basics | Please complete any paperwork that is sent home in the take home folder. In addition, please check your child’s planner each night. |

| C- Common Core | BCPS maintains correlation with MSDE Common Core standards. More information can be found:  
|               | Visit: [MD College and Career-Ready Standards Framework](#) for more information. |

| D- Discipline | **Conscious Discipline:** Fifth grade will implement Conscious Discipline practices. Students are familiar with these from previous grades.  
|               | Students will share in Morning Meetings and Brain Smart Start each day beginning at 8:50 am.  
|               | **Whole Brain Expectations:**  
|               | Rule #1- Follow Directions Quickly.  
|               | Rule #2- Raise your hand for permission to speak.  
|               | Rule #3- Raise your hand for permission to leave your seat.  
|               | Rule #4- Make Smart Choices.  
|               | Rule #5- Keep your dear learning community happy.  
|               | Diamond Rule- Eyes on Target |

| E- English Language Arts (ELA) | Students will be instructed with the Baltimore County English Language Arts (ELA) Grade 5 Curriculum. The children will read challenging texts for a variety of purposes using fiction and nonfiction texts. Expectations, rubrics, and models will be provided for each unit for students, and some will be provided digitally on Schoology to help your child to be successful.  
|                             | **ELA Grading Categories**- Reading and Writing together comprise the ELA grade as follows:  
|                             | ● Vocabulary and Comprehension |
Please note: checkpoints, quizzes, and assessments may not be redone.

Reading Overview: As fifth grade readers, the students will be applying learned skills to more complex text. Fifth grade readers will learn to annotate their inner conversation when reading and will be expected to use “Think Marks” to track their annotations. “Think Marks” (text annotations) will be explicitly taught in the first few lessons and required the remainder of the year. Readers will respond to text dependent questions in essay form with cited text evidence. Students will build stamina when reading lengthy texts from multi-page articles to novels. Novel information will be given to students and families before each novel.

Language Arts: Grammar, word work, and writing instruction will take place during Language class. Students will maintain a Writer’s Notebook for Writing Workshop and creative writing. They will take notes in the five subject ELA notebook. Students will complete writing assignments that are checkpoints and assessments within the ELA curriculum, along with a variety of other writing activities. Examples and guidelines will be pasted in the notes and discussed during class. Resources will be kept in the student ELA folder. Opportunities for research will be presented throughout the year.

Writing/ Language Arts Teacher Contacts:
1. Email: jbrier@bcps.org
   nmacchia@bcps.org
2. Message on Schoology by clicking the envelope in the top right and type in my name.

F- Field Trips
CMES 5th graders will participate in field trips. As of August 2022, one field trip will be the BCPS coordinated Science BioBlitz Field Experience. We will let you know the assigned date when we receive it. Additionally, we will seek volunteer chaperones for trips when needed.
Volunteer Information: Please see “V” below for information.
G- Grading

**Grading Policies:**

**Redoing Assignments:**

- A student in grades 3-5 may only redo an assignment below 79%.

- A student may not redo the same assignment more than two times.

- A student will be able to redo three assignments per subject/per term.

- A redo must be completed within two weeks of the child receiving their grade.

- Unit assessments and math checkpoints are not eligible for redos.

**Late/Make up Work:** All assigned work should be completed by the assigned due date. Individual cases will be discussed as needed. If a student is absent, we will keep a folder with the work for the day and any needed copies. BCPS policy states “Students returning from an absence will be allowed at least the same number of days of the absence to complete make-up work.”

**Schoology:** Fifth grade follows the 100 point grading scale. Any score earned below a 50% will receive the BCPS minimum of 50% and will be noted in the comments as LS (Low Score). Where applicable, due dates will be noted on the assignment as LDA (Last Date Accepted).

H- Homework

**Nightly:** Complete incomplete work from the school day

**Weekly:** Practice math facts and read 30+ minutes a night

**Band/ Orchestra:** If your student is missing a class, they are expected to complete the missing work that night as homework.

***Please remember to charge student devices daily before students come to school.***
| I- Independence | As we prepare for the transition to middle school, fifth grade expectations will allow for increased independence and accountability for students. 

Please check with students often to replenish needed school supplies. When applicable, we will notify you if more are needed for the class. 

BCPS adopted “Schoology” several years ago, and it is used in 5th grade. Students will use this learning tool throughout the day and will have access to their grades and some assignments. 

Students and parents should be checking planners often as this is our primary tool for communicating upcoming assignments and reminders. |
| --- | --- |
| J- Just the Basics | **Supplies:**

**Folders:** We will label these on the first day of school as follows:
- CMES Folder- Take Home/ Return to School (provided by school)
- Music (1), Library (1), Math (1), Writing (1), Content (1)

**Notebooks:** (2) We will set up the sections during the first week of school as follows:
- 3 Subject- Math: Vocabulary, Notes, Problem Solving
- 5 Subject- ELA: Notes, Reading Response Log, Grammar, Journal, Content
- Spiral Notebook (supplied)- Writer’s Notebook (stays at school)

**Consumables:** Cloth Pencil Case

Please send supplies the first day. Please continue to check with students throughout the year and replenish as needed. |
| K- Keeping Busy | **Club information:**

4th and 5th graders will have the opportunity to participate in after school clubs. As of August 2022, clubs will be in person after school. Our team will offer Battle of the Books and Math 24. Information will be provided as we receive it. These clubs will alternate weeks and not overlap. |
| Literacy | We will continue to craft good readers and writers. Daily reading, read-alouds, journal writing, book discussions, and Writer’s Workshop will all help to promote literacy and develop student skills. Students will engage in a range of whole group and small group collaborative activities to continue enriching their literary understanding. |
| M- Mathematics | Our math curriculum follows the Common Core State Standards and |
includes the Standards for Mathematical Practice. During math class, on grade-level content will be presented using Bridges in Mathematics, and the advanced curriculum will utilize Kendall-Hunt Illustrative Math. Additionally, all students will receive on-grade level Number Corner lessons daily.

Students will complete pre and post assessments for various skills and units throughout the year. Students will be expected to use a three-subject math notebook. All scores and feedback will be provided on Schoology and/or on assignments. Activities may involve a combination of journal entries, discussions, checkpoints, tiered tasks, and assessments. Students will work to master a variety of skills in the following areas: operations and algebraic thinking, number and operations in base ten, number and operations with fractions, measurement and data, and geometry. Grading will follow the Common Core State Standards for Math and will align with the BCPS grading policy. Please note: checkpoints, quizzes, and assessments may not be redone.

In 5th grade lessons, math students are expected to use math talk and show their work on all math problems. They should demonstrate an understanding of a variety of problem-solving strategies. Students are expected to write in math and include math vocabulary in their responses. Digital tools may be available for additional practice.

Students have multiple opportunities to meet with success in math in a variety of formats. At home, continuing to practice fluency with math facts is essential to help your student be prepared for learning.

Math Teacher Contact:
1. Email: lwilliams31@bcps.org, kbark@bcps.org
2. Message on Schoology by clicking the envelope in the top right and type in my name

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>N- News at CMES</th>
<th>Code of Conduct:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I will take care of myself</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>● Use calm-down strategies</td>
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<tr>
<td>● Make safe choices</td>
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<tr>
<td>● Be an active listener</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>● Be prepared for learning</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>● Be responsible for my work, words, and actions</td>
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<tr>
<td>I will take care of others</td>
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<tr>
<td>● Follow class commitments</td>
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N- News at CMES

Code of Conduct:
I will take care of myself
● Use calm-down strategies
● Make safe choices
● Be an active listener
● Be prepared for learning
● Be responsible for my work, words, and actions

I will take care of others
● Follow class commitments
- Use kind words
- Show kind actions

**I will take care of our school**
- Care for the school building
- Show teamwork
- Be careful with school materials

**Kindness Campaign- “Mission Possible”**
- Mrs. Hashimoto will provide more information when able.
- “Kindness Shoutouts” will be awarded to students throughout the year by teachers and students. These students will be celebrated in the monthly CMES newsletter, and some will be shared on the announcements.

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<th>O- Opportunities</th>
<th>Opportunities for leadership roles will be offered for 5th graders throughout the year. Selected students will be notified by the end of September.</th>
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<td>P- Planner</td>
<td>Each student will be given a CMES planner on the first day of school. Students will be directed at the start of each class to copy their homework, reminders, and other information. It is the responsibility of the student to fill in the planner neatly. Planners will be spot checked periodically.</td>
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</table>
| Q- Quality of Work | As fifth graders, students are expected to:  
  - Put their name, date, and class on every assignment  
  - Write as legibly as possible.  
  - Meet outlined expectations (Checklist for Success)/ models  
  - Show work for Mathematics  
  - Submit papers in the same condition in which the paper was provided to them. |
| R- Recommendations for Middle School | Requests must be submitted to the CMES main office initially, not the teacher. Mrs. Hardesty will forward to the teachers for completion. Please be mindful of the middle-school due date and allow a minimum of two weeks for teachers to complete. Once completed, the main office will compile and forward to the appropriate schools.  

Mrs. Hardesty's Contact: shardesty@bcps.org  
Phone: 410-887-5947 (Main Office)
| S- Science, Social Studies, and Health (CONTENT) | In fifth grade we rotate units among these three subjects. We will cover various historical topics in Social Studies. Students will take Cornell notes during lessons using the last section of the five subject notebook.  
We will cover four health units this year. More information about the health units will be sent home as needed.  
Several science units will be taught during the year. Students will receive consumable booklets for each unit. |
|---|---|
| T- Technology | Students that have password issues need to call the Help Desk at 443-809-4672 during regular hours of 7:15 am to 4:00 pm.  
Student Devices:  
All 5th grade students should receive a BCPS Chromebook to use this school year. During the first week of school, a contract explicitly outlining student expectations and consequences will be reviewed with students. Headphones/earbuds were listed on the school supply list this year. Students will need to have them available, especially for testing purposes. Detailed tech support will be provided from BCPS on their website as well as on Schoology in the Homeroom course. The Homeroom course will be the main spot for general information.  
***Please remember to charge student devices daily before students come to school.*** |
| U- Unity | Students will participate in daily class meetings in homerooms to promote unity and set goals. This will help to create community and foster positivity among students. |
| V- Volunteers and Class Celebrations | Volunteer Requirements: All adults must complete the BCPS volunteer training/application yearly. Please be sure to check with the office to verify all requirements have been met.  
We will discuss celebrations at a Room Parent Meeting in the fall. |
| W- Where? | Where can I find student grades and feedback on assignments? Schoology> Course> Grades> Feedback will be in the right column and/or on individual papers.  
Where can I see if my child has missing work? Schoology> Course> Grades> Look for an orange hexagon or comment to indicate a missing assignment. |
Where can I find information about **upcoming events**? Information will also be sent in “take home” folders and in classroom newsletters.

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<th>X-Exciting activities</th>
<th>We will promote teamwork throughout the year with grade five activities, House Days, and holiday celebrations.</th>
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<td>Y- Your Role</td>
<td>Students and parents are encouraged to work together. Checking grades weekly is helpful as well. Please assist in monitoring the proper use of the planner. CMES folder content should be reviewed and cleaned out daily. Thank you for your support.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Z- Zip it up</td>
<td>Any questions, thoughts, or concerns please reach out. Our contact information is listed above. Parking Lot- please post your questions on chart paper in each classroom when you visit for Back to School night. We will compile the Q/A document and share it through the student folder.</td>
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