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Miss Block’s 5th Grade

Curriculum Night 2023-2024

**Contact Information**

* Please feel free to contact me at any time: [kblock@valleyacademy.com](mailto:kblock@valleyacademy.com). An e-mail or a note in the planner is preferable.
* Class web page: linked through school website or block5.weebly.com

**Student Planner**

* Students are responsible for accurately recording assignments each day
* Parents should sign planner each night M-Th indicating that they have seen their child’s completed homework – if homework is incomplete, planner should not be signed
* Planner not signed and/or homework not completed results in a signature on the homework card
* May be used for quick communication between parents and teacher
* Tests/Quizzes/Due dates for the week are always written in red

**Weekly Newsletter**

* E-mailed, hard copy in weekly folder, and may be found on class web page
* Includes important dates within the classroom and campus wide
* Overview of academics for the week

**Weekly Folder**

* Sent home every Monday
* Contains graded work/tests from previous week, newsletter, and other communication
* Number of papers below 75% indicated on signature sheet
* Please remove graded papers, sign on dated line, and return by Wednesday

**Missing/Late Work**

* Homework is due first thing in the morning
* If homework is not complete, students go to Opportunity Club during recess to complete the assignment; grade is automatically dropped to a maximum score of 65% per Valley Academy policy
* Homework card is signed
* Students that are absent have one day for each day they are absent to complete make-up work

**Book Reports**

* Students will choose a different type of fiction book (mystery, fantasy, adventure, etc.) each quarter
* Books must be on the school’s recommended reading list for 5th grade or higher and approved by both parent and teacher
* Books for first quarter must be read and graphic organizer completed by September 8th
* 1st Quarter Book report due on September 26th
* 2nd quarter will be historical fiction / 3rd quarter will be State Research Project

**Responsibility Cards**

* Missing/incomplete/left at home homework or unsigned planner results in signature on homework card
* Behavior issues result in signature on responsibility card
* Every 3 signatures on homework or responsibility card result in a detention (not combined)

**Grading Policies/ParentVue**

* Generally anything with a percentage on it is recorded in the grade book
* Papers with incomplete headings lose 5%; no name loses 10%
* ½ off for misspelled words when a word bank is provided or they are common words
* Corrected study guides are turned in for homework grade (includes Saxon math test form A)
* Parents are encouraged to use ParentVue to stay informed about their child’s grades

**Curriculum**

* Spalding/Spelling
  + Students are held accountable for neat and accurate Spalding notebooks
  + Students are tested on 40 new words and 10 review words per week
  + Spelling packets will be used each week – received on Monday, due on Friday
* Language/Writing
  + *Easy Grammar -* parts of speech, punctuation, types of sentences
  + *Grammar and Writing 5 –* writing skills for sentences, paragraphs, and essays
  + 6 Traits are emphasized for all types of writing
* Reading
  + Using basal reader for Tall Tales, Legends, Folk Tales, and Mythology
  + Novel studies – *Johnny Tremain and Tuck Everlasting*
  + Analyze different types of literature and attributes of quality literature
  + Required reading of 600 pages per quarter – books are not required to be from list
  + Monthly memory piece recitation due by Thursday of the first full week of each month
* Math
  + Timed fact tests – monthly assessments count as assignment grade; quarterly as quiz grade
  + Saxon text with supplemental worksheets to meet state standards
  + *Buckle Down Math*
  + All math work must be neat, completed in pencil, all work shown, and be labeled appropriately
* Social Studies
  + American history from Pre-Revolutionary War to Industrialism
  + U.S. Geography including location, capital, and abbreviations for each state (studied by region)
  + Economics
  + State report after first of year, will be taught in class
* Science
  + Life science – Cells, Body Systems; Solar System; Forces; Electricity
  + Science demonstrations/labs

**General Reminders for Student Success**

* Always answer questions by restating the question in the response
* Write in complete sentences in cursive with correct spelling and punctuation
* Proper heading on every paper
* Keep focused as we have a fast tempo in the classroom
* Complete and turn in all assigned work on time
* Personal responsibility is the name of the game!

**Campus Reminders**

Pick up – must have parent ID, placard, or sticker from office

* + Keep placard visible until child is in car
  + Please do not park in neighborhood or in business parking lots on 15th Lane

I am looking forward to a great year! Please do not hesitate to contact me at any time, as I will be happy to schedule a time to meet with you to discuss your child’s individual needs.

Miss Block