



Welcome to 5th Grade!

Summer 2024

Dear Parents,

Welcome to 5th Grade at The Franklin School of Innovation! We are excited to get to know you and introduce you to The Franklin School of Innovation. Everyone on the 5th grade team from last year will be returning for the 2024-2025 school year: Mr. Pauley (Social Studies), Mrs. Ryan (Science), Mrs. Nussbaum (ELA), Mr. Guzinski (Math), and Mrs. Brittany Davenport (EC). Beyond introducing ourselves and saying, “Welcome!” We also want to take this opportunity to overview some expectations we have for our students and families, and in turn let you know what you can expect from us.

From students, we expect everyone to help contribute to a positive classroom culture. A positive classroom culture is one where we speak kindly and listen respectfully, maintain a growth mindset, arrive prepared to work and learn, and take care of our campus and materials. We expect students to follow the dress code and guidelines of our school, and to show every adult at school the same respect they show their adults at home.

From our parents, we ask for your patience and support as much as you can offer it. We are entirely committed to the success of every child, and our goals are the same as yours - we want the best for your child! We will have around one hundred students to work with each day, and concerns, conflicts, and needs will arise. Let us show students that we are working together towards common goals, and provide a model of cooperation throughout the year.

From your teachers, you should expect us to know your child as an individual. We will strive to make personal connections with every student, to know their strengths and weaknesses, and to push every student towards academic and personal growth. You can expect us to make decisions based upon your child’s best interest and to get timely communication from us when a concern arises. You can expect us to help, to guide, to encourage, to model the values and behaviors we teach, and to push students to do more than they ever thought they could.

We are very excited to kick off what we hope will be the best year yet at Franklin. Below you will find a brief introduction from each of your core teachers.

English-Language Arts (Teacher: Autumn Nussbaum - anussbaum@thefsi.us)

Students in ELA can expect to be challenged daily to analyze, describe, compare, revise, develop, organize, collaborate, and reflect. Most of all, persist in the challenge of putting thoughts to paper. Students will read and write daily in addition to participating in classroom discussions and activities. In reading, we will emphasize the concepts of reading deeply, gathering evidence, and analyzing text. In writing, we will emphasize sentence, paragraph, and essay structure, incorporation of quotations, and clarity of message. We will be reading fictional novels, biographies and much more!

Social Studies (Teacher: Chris Pauley - cpauley@thefsi.us)

Social Studies content builds on previous studies of state and local government/history and transitions to a broader understanding of those topics on the national level. Students will learn a comprehensive, inclusive, and ethical approach to United States history. Major topics covered will be Native American history, European exploration/colonization and its effects, Revolutionary War and the creation/function of our government, the causes of the Civil War, the Industrial Revolution, and Civil Rights.

Science (Teacher: Jen Ryan - jryan@thefsi.us)

Fifth grade junior scientists will do the work of scientists by forming evidence-based explanations and designing and conducting experiments. Students can expect to apply their growing knowledge through projects and labs, often working collaboratively. Our curriculum explores life science, force and motion, and weather. We will build a foundation of inquiry skills that students will expand upon each year at Franklin.

Math (Teacher: Kyle Guzinski - kguzinski@thefsi.us)

In fifth grade math, students will build on previous mathematical knowledge and investigate new topics such as order of operations, volume, and graphing on a coordinate plane. Some core fifth grade math skills also include multiplying and dividing with multi-digit numbers, decimals, and fractions as well as adding and subtracting fractions with unlike denominators. Students will regularly apply their mathematical knowledge to real world problems and learn multiple ways to solve equations. Students will frequently use math to better understand science concepts. For example, we will investigate the use of place value and decimals by using the metric system to collect data and use graphs to analyze experimental results.

Resource and Inclusion (IEP/504)

Students will continue to work towards goals through their current Individual Education Program if applicable. This will include both resource and inclusion time stated in the service minutes agreed upon for each student who falls in this category. Students can expect to work in small-groups and/or one-on-one to gain skills necessary to accomplish each goal. These resource/inclusion times will be scheduled throughout the week for each student while incorporating their accommodations and modifications.

Assessments and Character Development

In all fifth grade core classes, we will focus heavily on FSI's Habits of Scholarship to develop lifelong learning skills, including organization and communication skills. A student's grade will be a culmination of classwork, assessments, and projects and the contents of their notebook/binder.

5th Grade Readiness and Summer Preparation

Research indicates that many students will experience a decline in academic growth on summer vacation. To ensure that our students start school prepared to learn, they should engage in academic material over break.

We encourage rising 5th graders to read every night. Reading a variety of genres, reading aloud, and talking about what they're reading will help keep their minds engaged. **Please see the reading list below for suggested age-appropriate books.**

It is essential for students to arrive the first day already knowing their multiplication facts. Students should practice them daily this summer to be prepared to build on this skill throughout fifth grade math. These [math cards](#) are a great resource for practicing multiplication in a way that promotes mathematical understanding and number fluency.

We encourage students to keep a weekly **nature journal** this summer and write or sketch what they see, hear, and observe around them. By observing closely through writing or drawing, they hone their observation skills and descriptive writing skills. This practice can help students find a sense of calm by focusing on the present. They can turn in their nature journal to science class for extra credit at the beginning of the fall semester.

Finally, thank you for choosing to entrust our team with your child's education. We can't wait to get to know them and to watch them grow. Please feel free to be in touch with us as needs arise and we will do the same. There is also a school supplies list attached. It's going to be an exceptional year!

All the best,

Mr. Chris Pauley

Mrs. Jenn Ryan

Mrs. Brittany Davenport

Mrs. Autumn Nussbaum

Mr. Kyle Guzinski



5th Grade School Supply List

Required - for individual student use:

- 1 one-inch binder with dividers and loose leaf paper (Math)
- 1 composition notebook (science)
- 1 three-subject spiral notebooks (ELA)
- 2 notebooks/journals for ELA
- 3 durable two-pocket folders (one for social studies, one for theater, and one for communication/work)
- Water bottle with a screw top lid
- Pencil pouch with
 - 12 #2 pencils
 - Eraser
 - 12-pack colored pencils
 - Scissors
 - 2-3 glue sticks
- Not required, but headphones are recommended to have. These can be earbuds or over-ear; expensive sets that might be easily damaged **should not** be sent.
- For Art class:
 - -white art eraser
 - -2 or more fine tip sharpies
 - -2 or more broad tip sharpies
 - -1 container disinfectant wipes
 - -1 roll paper towels
 - *These supplies will be combined with many other supplies and equipment provided by the school such as clay, paint, pastels, papers, markers and more!

Community Supplies Wishlist (optional, shared supplies for the classroom)

- Disinfectant Wipes
- Tissues
- Paper Towels
- Extra pencils
- Sharpies
- Glue sticks

Art Classroom supplies wishlist

Our Wish list, if you would like to donate to help Visual Arts and families in need at FSI:

- -Colored Sharpies
- -Fine tip black Sharpies
- -Broad tip black Sharpies
- -Prismacolor colored pencils
- -Ebony pencils
- -Oil pastels
- -Chalk pastels
- -white art erasers
- -Micron Pens any size

Fees: There is a one-time \$15.00 consumables fee, which covers things like expedition materials, science labs, supplemental reading books, workbooks and other instructional consumable materials. The school will send out invoices for the consumables fee through email at the beginning of the school year which can be paid online or by cash or check.

Field trips generally require additional fees.

Note about supplies

Materials on this list do not need to be new, just in good working shape. Feel free to reuse materials from previous years that students already have. Please consider, if you are able, donating an extra bag of supplies for those who cannot.

If you are not able to afford supplies, please email the grade level lead, Chris Pauley, at cpauley@thefsi.us to let us know. We will do our best to provide supplies to any child that is not able to afford them. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Mr. Chris Pauley (Social Studies)

Mrs. Jenn Ryan (Science)

Mrs. Brittany Davenport (EC)

Mrs. Autumn Nussbaum (ELA)

Mr. Kyle Guzinski (Math)

Suggested 5th/6th Grade Summer Reading Choices

Award Winners:

Moon Over Manifest
by Clare Vanderpool

Out of the Dust
by Karen Hesse

Kira-Kira
by Cynthia Kadohata

The Higher Power of Lucky
by Susan Patron Illustrated by Matt Phelan

The Graveyard Book
by Neil Gaiman Illustrated by Dave McKean

When You Reach Me

by Rebecca Stead

Dead End in Norvelt

by Jack Gantos

Mockingbird

by Kathryn Erskine

When Zachary Beaver Came to Town

by Kimberly Willis Holt

Classics and Favorites:

Charlotte's Web

by E. B. White

Matilda

by Roald Dahl

Number the Stars

by Lois Lowry

Maniac Magee

by Jerry Spinelli

Tuck Everlasting

by Natalie Babbitt

Island of the Blue Dolphins

by Scott O'Dell

DRAGONWINGS

by Laurence Yep

A Long Way From Chicago

by Richard Peck

Nonfiction:

GUYS READ: TRUE STORIES

by Various

HARRIET TUBMAN

by Ann Petry

RED SCARF GIRL

by Ji-li Jiang

by Susin Nielsen

Return to Sender

by Julia Alvarez

The Season of Styx Malone

by Kekla Magoon

Amina's Voice

by Hena Khan

Amal Unbound

by Aisha Saeed

Or check out amazing middle grade titles by one these authors!

Richard Peck
Christopher Paul Curtis
JK Rowling
Cynthia Rylant
Lois Lowry
James Patterson
Rick Riordan
Jerry Spinelli
Gary Paulsen
Raina Telgemeier
Neil Gaiman
Carl Hiaasen

**In light of our current societal situations, the following titles highlight the diversity and equity in which our school firmly believes. These titles are by no means comprehensive. They're just a place to start and get students thinking.*

The Parker Inheritance

by Varian Johnson

No Fixed Address