

Mrs. Gallagher
Grade 5

Welcome to the 2011-2012 school year. Below is a general idea of the procedures of my classroom. All students are challenged to do their best, in all areas. Coming to class prepared and willing to participate makes for a terrific learning environment.

Grading

All grading is based on a points system. Tests and projects have a point value higher than practice pages and quizzes. Participation is encouraged, and may determine a final grade for the quarter.

Conduct

Good behavior is expected in all areas of the school. Students do receive verbal, and sometimes non-verbal, warnings if they do not follow my classroom guidelines. Repeated disregard for rules may result in an after-school slip. Detentions (see Second Floor Rules) may be issued.

Social Studies:

Homework usually includes assigned reading, review of notes, textbook or workbook pages, and projects or reports.

Chapter tests are generally announced one week in advance

Quizzes are normally announced ahead of time, but an unannounced quiz may be given if I see a need.

Notebooks may be graded two to four times a year.

Pages assigned from the textbook, review worksheets, and workbook pages all count as part of the social studies grade.

Projects and reports will be graded. A long-term History Day project is required for all fifth grade students.

Language Arts:

Spelling/Penmanship

Spelling words will come from the workbook, as well as from trade books and the social studies textbook.

Homework usually includes one assigned practice page Monday - Thursday.

The unit list should be practiced nightly.

Spelling tests will normally be given every Friday.

One to two spelling workbook pages will be taken for a grade each week.

I grade penmanship, both cursive and print, for correct letter formation, size, legibility, and spacing.

A handwriting assignment is given weekly in class, and may be assigned as homework if not completed in the allotted time.

Reading

Students should be reading on a daily basis.

Trade books and skills texts are used to practice different reading strategies to aid in comprehension.

There will be several book projects assigned throughout the year. Clear guidelines will be distributed for each project.

Vocabulary, comprehension questions, quizzes, and projects will be assigned and graded on class books and reading assignments.

Some writing assignments may be part of the reading grade.

The notebook may be graded two to four times a year.

English

Students will be instructed in correct English grammar, usage, and mechanics.

Workbook and textbook pages will be assigned for homework Monday – Thursday.

Writing assignments will be varied and are to reflect the skills taught in class.

Writing assignments will be graded for specific skills.

Unit tests will be announced at least one week in advance.

Quizzes are normally announced ahead of time, but an unannounced quiz may be given if I see a need.

Students will receive grades for each step of the History Day research paper.

Specific guidelines will be distributed for this project. A parent signature will be required for parts of this assignment.

The notebook may be graded two to four times a year.

This is a general idea of the procedures of my classroom. All students are challenged to do their best, in all areas. Coming to class prepared and willing to participate makes for a terrific learning environment.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me through the school office, or at gallagher@stmarkwestpark.com. I believe it is going to be a great year in the fifth grade!

Mrs. Kathleen Gallagher