

# The Sterling Elementary 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> Grade Newsletter

Welcome Back to School!

Sterling Elementary  
Drawer 89, Sterling, AK 99672  
5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> Grade  
September 2017

## The 5th/6th Grade Teachers

We hope everyone is as excited as we are about being back to school! Let us start by telling you a bit about ourselves.

This will be Mrs. McKinley's fifth full year teaching at Sterling, third time teaching 5/6 combo class. She is certified in CPR and First Aid. She's also on the PBIS team, PTA and Site Council.

This will be Mrs. Knobloch's second year teaching at Sterling. She received her Bachelor of Arts in Elementary Education from Northern Kentucky University and is currently pursuing her Master of Arts in Education Technology from Morehead State University. When not teaching, she loves to spend time with her husband and her dog exploring Alaska!

Brian Krauklis has joined the 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> grade team after moving from Houston, TX. He has taught 5th grade for 27 years. He is excited about moving to Alaska and is known to be a big University of Texas Longhorns fan!



## Upcoming Year!

This year is going to be very exciting! We will be using personal learning to enhance future learning, leadership, social skills, and teamwork.

Students will also experience a blended learning class with access to online learning, interactive SMARTboard activities, Kindles, laptops, and activity centers

## This Week's Assignments

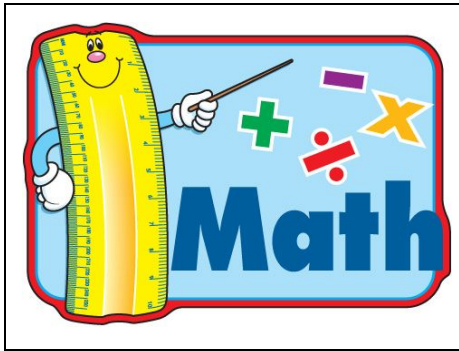
Continue learning and reviewing PBIS/ school and classroom expectations.  
-Working cooperatively with fellow classmates and classes.

## Language Arts

**Writing** will consist of spelling, grammar, vocabulary and of course, writing! Students will also be creative journaling. Interactive Notebooks will be a valuable tool for all 5<sup>th</sup> / 6<sup>th</sup> graders to learn the standards and apply them to their weekly lessons. Monthly writing assessment will help determine progress throughout the year. First quarter writing will encompass Narrative Writing.

**Reading** will involve a variety of sources as we will be using the Journeys program, Epic books which offers a wide selection of title for students to choose, along with informational texts. Please encourage your child to read for at least 15 minutes/day and tell you about the book he/she is reading.

**Spelling** words will be limited to ten per week and will be based on spelling errors within writing assignments. Students will test each other every Friday.



Students will be on an A/B schedule in math class this year. Students will



spend one day in whole group learning and then have time for independent practice. The next day, students will have a chance to visit math centers that give them opportunities to problem solve through a variety of activities, pace themselves, and work independently or with peers.

A Days: 5<sup>th</sup> Grade will be in whole group; 6<sup>th</sup> grade will be in rotations.

B Days: 5<sup>th</sup> grade will be in rotations; 6<sup>th</sup> grade will be in whole group.

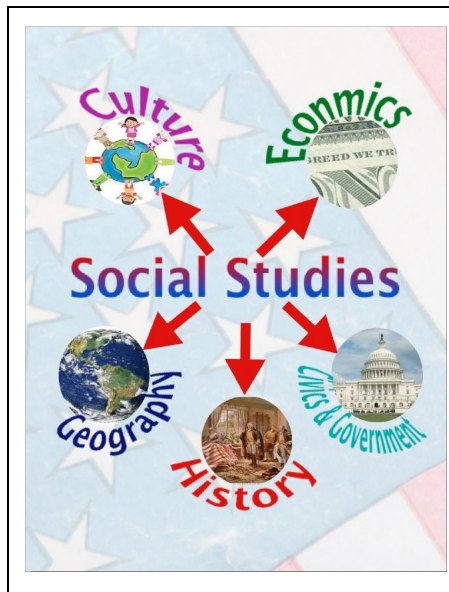
Students will access Google Classroom twice a week for their homework which will be math videos from our curriculum.

### Reminders to Students

- Bring umbrella in case it rains
- Bring lunch money if having HOT lunches
- Donated snacks and bottled water are greatly appreciated (No healthy snacks provided this school year)
- Don't forget your popcorn money on Fridays! (.50 / bag)



We are looking forward to a great year with science, beginning with the Scientific Method and then moving on to the Stars and the Solar System.



Social Studies will involve Citizenship for both grades. 5<sup>th</sup> grade will be studying important events in American history while 6<sup>th</sup> grade will be expanding their knowledge of geography.

### Thank You Students!

For being in our classes and doing your best! For working hard and growing your minds! For participating in our first PBIS celebration in a respectful, responsible, and safe manner! You are becoming leaders in our school!

### Other Subjects

#### Health

Starting September, we will be studying **The Great Body Shop** for one hour weekly.

#### Computer Safety

KPBSD has implemented the website **Common Sense Media** <https://www.commonsensemedia.org/> to teach students about internet safety.

### Contacting Us!

Anytime by phone 262-4944, or just drop by the classroom! We believe in an "Open-door" policy! Just make sure you have your volunteer status up-to-date. We will get back to you ASAP or call the school.

### Reminders to Parents About Homework

This years homework will consist of any work not completed in class. No additional homework will be assigned. If students have access to technology and the internet, we have provided a To Do List for the week, including websites that we will be using in class.

- <https://sterling-elementary.typingclub.com> - typing
- <https://www.getepic.com> - reading
- <https://code.org/> - coding

