

Welcome Letter

to Mr. Casler's 5th Graders!

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Google Classroom link:

<https://classroom.google.com/u/0/c/MTA5ODM2NTY2NTk5>



Google Meet video link: <https://meet.google.com> Will get out more info soon.

5th Webpage:

<https://sites.google.com/tumwater.k12.wa.us/pgs5thgrade/all-5th-home-page>

Welcome Families and My New Students

Families and kids, please read this letter TOGETHER.... I am so ready and excited to meet you and welcome you to my homeroom class. You are 5th GRADERS! Not just that, but you are the oldest kids in the school, soon to be middle schoolers. That is special, and you are. That is why I am really excited to meet you and talk about this year.

Now, you know that this year is WAY different than any other. We will make the best of it together. It won't be perfect, and you will not see your friends every day at recess 😞. But I promise that you WILL learn more than you ever thought you could. Even at home! How? Together we will keep an open mind. We will work AND play hard! And I have some things planned for you at home, in your neighborhood, and over the computer that never could have happened any other way.

5TH Grade Info

- ★ **About Me! 2020 is my 20th year in schools.** Yes, I'm that old! I've been at PGS for two years. Before that I was a math and science teacher, principal, and then superintendent. It was then time to get back to working with kids everyday. My favorite job EVER now is hanging with PGS 5th graders! My family is shown above--my wife Jen, then Mia (16) and Jack (12). We all love to be outside riding bikes, hiking, playing soccer, Diet Coke, and fishing. Some of you may know I love to watch Sounders and Barcelona FC soccer!



- ★ **Homeroom Schedule**--This year, at least while at home, we will not have a 5th grade rotation. That is, I will be your only teacher. This is different than last year. This is to make things as simple as possible with remote learning. I will be working closely with Mrs. Madden, Ms. Siminski, and Mrs. Crabtree every week to keep 5th grade special and working together! You WILL get to chat with other 5th graders too so don't worry. You will have daily specialists too.
- ★ **Schedule**--I will be sending home a detailed daily schedule on Sept 9 with supply pickup (maybe before). Don't panic though! The whole first 1½ weeks will be about making sure we cover all the details and access points to make your child successful. I have no doubts and will walk every student through things by phone if necessary. Most Wednesdays students will work mostly on their own as teachers are assigned other duties for much of the day.

I will also be sending the schedule and lots of other info through:
1) Skyward, 2) Google Classroom (GC), and our 3) 5th Grade Webpage. All login and websites are above.

- ★ **Google Classroom (GC) & Online Work**--This year will be different. Most work will either be turned in on GC or shown to me through Google Meet video. I will walk EVERYONE through this during our

video time. I will also work individually with families to make sure we have this down...and learn together.

- ★ **5th Webpage**--This webpage will be one place to read about assigned work, how to use tech stuff, and to see amazing work our kids do. It will grow...and families if you have ideas to make this more helpful please email or call me.
- ★ **What if I can't always attend our daily schedule?** Most Google Meet videos will be recorded for students to watch later. That is okay! Much of the classwork will be located in GC and recorded to be flexible for families.

Things Parents & Kids can do Before Sept 9th

- ★ **Supplies**--This list will be going home on Sept 9th at PGS supply pickup. **Our class can pickup at 3:15-3:45.** If that date does not work just email me.
 - **Good headphones** that can block out some sound
 - **Needed**--Pencils, Colored pencils, 1-2 Composition Books, 2 Spiral Notebooks, Pencil sharpener
 - **Optional**--Trifold for learning space (see \$1 Store), Two inch 3-Ring binder with dividers to organize papers
- ★ **Create a learning space for your child.**
 - Desk/small table, good light/window, power for Chromebook, able to be quiet & appropriate for videos with other students, and organized.
- ★ **Attempt to log into Google Classroom and our 5th grade webpage with your child.**





Things Kids can do Now

- ★ **Start a daily routine** of good sleep, meals, and exercise! We will start at 8:40 daily starting Sept 14th.
- ★ **Show & tell**--Think of 2-3 items or experiences that are very special to you! Examples--drawing/painting, pet, trip you did, your favorite place, picture, or sport.
- ★ **Water**--We will start exploring “water”! Try writing down a list of any facts you know about water! We will share in first weeks.

Upcoming Dates

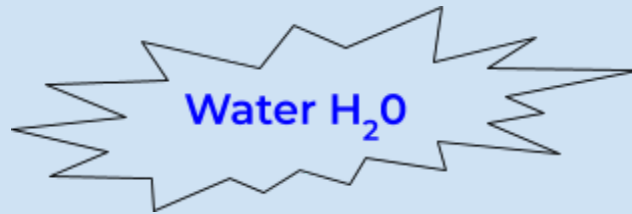
Week 0

- ★ **Sept 9 3:15-3:45:** Chromebook p/u & cinch sack supplies & books. Also a folder of handouts to help your child and you navigate the first weeks will be included.
- ★ **Sept 9-11: Individual conference with student & family.** Signs ups on Skyward starting shortly after Sept 2nd. If you can't just email me.

Week 1 Sept 14-18

- ★ **Routines & Tech**--We will get settled into our schedule.
- ★ **We will get to know** our classmates and teacher.
- ★ **We will start academic work.** It will start very flexible so don't stress.

Outside of in-person video learning with me, my goal this fall is to provide as much engaging and independent work as possible. Therefore as a parent you know that learning is happening and students are not “stuck” and unable to complete work. They will work hard, but they will quickly become as self-sufficient as possible.



In our class we are going to explore a water theme this fall!

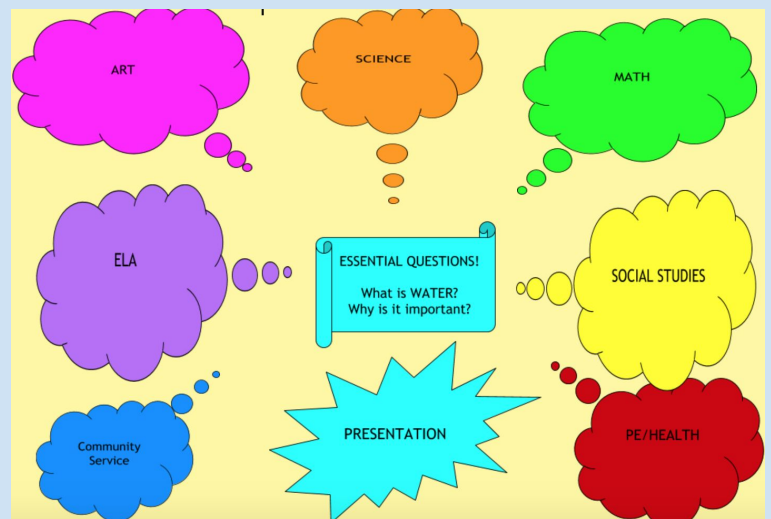
We will begin to answer questions like:



- What is **Water H₂O** ? What is water at the “atomic level”?
- And what in the world is an atom???
- What does it look like if we could “zoom” into water?
- What part does water play in our different **ecosystems**?
- What is some **cool science and math**?
- **Why is it important?** To both my community and planet?
- What am I excited about exploring in a project?

Families, during this work we will integrate math, science, ELA, social studies, art, and even health/PE standards into our work.

To start you can begin by writing down **ANYTHING** you know about **water!** I can't wait to hear your ideas and for you to share with your classmates! See you soon!



~Mr. C, your Tour Guide

