



Warren T. Jackson Elementary

Ms. Van Wormer's 5th Grade Gazette

August 15, 2016

Welcome to 5th Grade! We are off to a fantastic start of the school year! I have thoroughly enjoyed these past 8 days getting to know each student. We have done a couple of experiments to start our learning journey as scientists as well as getting to know each other through S.E.L., Social-Emotional Learning, the newest component of our curriculum. As you may already know, there have been more changes at Jackson. First, our Primary Campus has returned to their facilities on Northside Drive. Everyone now has a bit more breathing room at Main Campus. Our new principal, Mr. Brent McBride, has been working hard to make communication faster and easier for everyone. Please be sure to check the school's webpage for current information and upcoming events. There are many other new faces around campus, as veteran staff take new positions. Dr. Austin and Mrs. Atwell are over at the Primary Campus, keeping the tradition of excellence going. Mrs. Melissa Hugh-Girdhari is the new Assistant Principal at Main Campus. Please be sure to introduce yourselves to our new administration team!

To kick off the year of 100% family support, I hope to see you Wednesday, August 17th at our Curriculum Night at 7:00 P.M. There will be a variety of topics covered, so please plan to be there.

As you know, there are a variety of assessments our students are required to take. Atlanta Public Schools has re-evaluated the way this has been done in the past. Currently, 5th graders will participate in STAR (literacy and numeracy) during fall, winter, and spring, CAAS (Computer Adaptive Assessment System) as needed, Student Learning Objectives (SLO) for P.E., music, art, and French, There is the Georgia Milestones Assessment (Spring administration) used to determine promotion/retention based on reading and mathematics achievement levels. The fall assessments provide current ability levels, and are used with end-of-4th grade data to identify strengths and weaknesses while creating learning goals with the students.

Important Reminders:

- ◆ Curriculum Night, Wednesday, August 17th., 7:00 p.m.
- ◆ **STAR** assessments are being taken this week. This includes reading and mathematics.
- ◆ AR Annual Goal: **I want every child to achieve 100% of his/her goal by the end of the year.** I conference throughout the year with each student to establish a personal goal and take action to achieve that goal.
- ◆ Communication: Class website is up and running. Please go to avanwormer.weebly.com You can contact me directly via email or cell phone. That information is located on the website, on Class Information page.