



# *South Hill Grade 5 News*

October 16, 2019

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<http://southhillgrade5.weebly.com/>

Contact us if you have questions or need to let us know something:  
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or send us a note, or call the office and leave a message (274-2129).

## Important Dates

**October 24- Scholastic Book Fair!**

**October 24- PTA Fall Festival: 5:30-7:30 in Cafeteria**

**October 25- Professional Learning Day for teachers. No school for students.**

**October 29- Picture re-take day**

**November 9- Student Led Conference Day (Bring your child.)**

**November 11- Veterans Day**

**November 27-29 Thanksgiving Recess**

Dear Families,

It has been a busy, productive start to the year. We are getting to know one another and establishing routines and procedures. Thank you for checking your child's red assignment book each night.

## **Science**

Our focus on the local biosphere at Buttermilk Falls State Park has led us to look closely at species which could upset the balance of the ecosystem. The students are researching individual species at writing time. To conclude our study of living things, we have conducted experiments to look at producers (plants) and decomposers (redworms). We are taking a End-of-Unit assessment on Friday, and the students will be able to use their notebooks to assist them. Moving forward, we will be learning more about the other spheres: atmosphere, geosphere, and hydrosphere, and how the spheres interact. This will engage students in understanding and making models in science.

## **Student-led Conferences**

During your child's upcoming conference, they will present an electronic portfolio. This portfolio will showcase samples of their work and outline goals for the school year. The parent/teacher/student team will discuss plans to meet their goals.

## **Reading**

Each student should have a good fit chapter book to read at school.

Soon we will begin our first book club meetings for the year. Each student will be reading a realistic fiction book. Most of these books are award winners. We will meet in clubs twice a week to further discuss the book and make connections. Upon completion of the books, students will work on a project to share their books with others.

## **Writing**

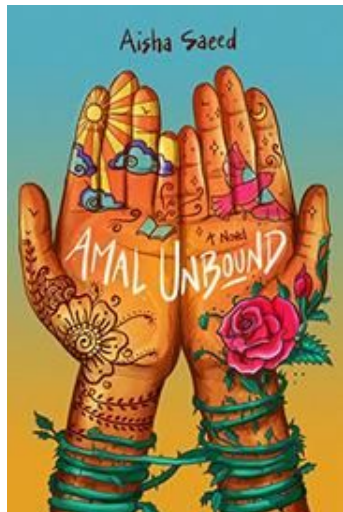
We are beginning our second unit of study focused on informational writing. This unit of study corresponds to our current science unit about the biosphere. Each student is researching one of the following invasive species that we discovered at our Buttermilk Falls field site: rusty crayfish, hemlock woolly adelgid, marmorated stink bug, or earthworms. They will be presenting their findings and recommendations in a few weeks after meeting with experts.

## **Math**

The students will soon be completing Module 1 and will be taking a math assessment early next week. The assessment will focus on place value patterns, rounding and estimation. In addition, the students will be tested on adding, subtracting, multiplying, and dividing decimals.

We will be starting Module 2, which emphasizes multiplication and division of whole numbers and decimals. The word problems will start to integrate measurement concepts.

Please work with your child on becoming fluent with their multiplication facts (1-10).



## **Read-Aloud**

We have begun reading the book Amal Unbound which is a realistic fiction book set in Pakistan. The students will be working on a project in art class to highlight one of the themes of the book. To learn about the book, please visit

<https://www.commonsemmedia.org/book-reviews/amal-unbound>

**Note:** Thanks to everyone who was able to attend Curriculum Night last week! You can find our slides that we used on the South Hill Grade 5 website. Let us know if you have any questions.