



5th Grade Updates

December 6, 2019

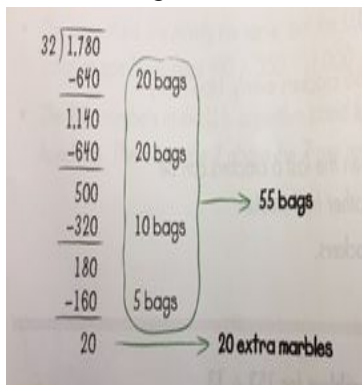
Exciting Events	Willow Creek Community
<p>Dec. 20: Early Dismissal 12:30 5th Grade Gift Exchange 12:00-12:30 (<i>Festive dress encouraged!</i>)</p> <p>December 20-January 6th No School: Winter Break!</p> <p>Wednesday, January 10: Field trip to the De Young Museum 10am - 2pm (Drivers needed!)</p> <p>Jan. 20: No School Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day</p>	<p>Self-Control: The word of the month. These 5th graders are doing a super job demonstrating Self Control!</p> <p>There are important meetings coming up:</p> <p>Willow Creek Academy Board Meeting Wed, December 11, 6:30 pm in WCA Library: The Willow Creek Board will be meeting to grapple with the reality created by the District's decision to defund our school. Please attend.</p> <p>Willow Creek Academy Community Information Session Thurs, December 12, 6:30 pm in WCA MPR: We will be having an information meeting to answer questions about the unification process, the budget and the legal action, and provide information on how you and our community can help.</p>

Curriculum Corner

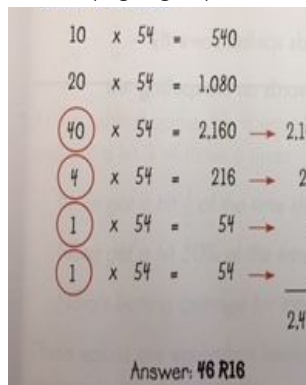
Math:

This week we worked on multi-step problems - ones where you need to multiply, then divide, clearly and concisely notate, then recall what the question was asking and track your answer. This week we practiced 4-digit by 2-digit DIVISION and have reviewed division strategies. **There are many ways to solve a division problem.** Please support your student in the way they choose to work the problems. We are working with a few strategies, in division *and* multiplication, many ways to keep track of work, but each of these problems has only one right answer! Here are two **division strategies** we have been teaching:

“Subtracting Down”



“Multiplying Up”



Fractions multiplication and order of operations will still be part of homework, as review, and that way we can shore up skills even as we are learning division of larger numbers.

[Multiplication Blaster Game](#)

[Multiplication Games](#)

Science

This week we have been learning about the possible answers to this question: Why did the dinosaurs go extinct? We examined evidence based reasons for the extinction of the dinosaurs, created complicated food web models, and wrote about it. Our focus was on the ash cloud obstruction of the sun as the cause of the collapse of the ecosystem that supported the giants many millennia ago.

Reading

In class and at home, we have been working with students on reading intensely and writing about reading. We are looking to boost how much they love reading by steering them to books at the appropriate level. We are looking also to lift their writing about reading to go beyond summarizing, to the early stages of analysis, theme and character motivation. Students are reading books of their own choice. Next week, we will begin to focus on skills needed to unpack non-fiction text and non-fiction text features.

ELA/Social Studies

This week we studied European Explorers, early North American Settlements, and started to consider how the geography of the first colonies affected where they settled and why. Next week, we will debate Whether the Europeans were justified in pushing the Indigenous Peoples off the land, and the mercantile systems of the Colonies. We will begin to learn deeply about each colony and start to write an informational book about each colony next week.

References

[Homework Calendar Link](#)

Math:

Website: www.pearsonrealize.com

Username: (firstinitial)(lastname)wca **Example:** jschmidtwca

Password: Wca31 _ _ _ (followed by their student number) **Ex:** Wca31000

Website: [Dreambox](https://play.dreambox.com/login/z7a8/willowca) <https://play.dreambox.com/login/z7a8/willowca>

Username: (firstinitial)(lastname)wca **Example:** jschmidtwca

Password: Wca31 _ _ _ (followed by their student number) **Ex:** Wca31000

Science:

Website: [Mystery Science](#) Web of Life!

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5th Grade Specials:

Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
	8:35-9:00 Library (every other week)	10:20-11:10 Music (Schmidt) Art (St. Denny)	10:20-11:00 P.E.

2:20-3:00 P.E.	1:10-2:00 Music (St. Denny) Art (Schmidt)		
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