



## 5th Grade Updates

September 27, 2019

Exciting Events	Willow Creek Community
<p><b>September 28:</b> Fall Welcome at WCA</p> <p><b>October 8:</b> Guest Speaker! Mark of the Cherokee Nation</p> <p><b>October 9:</b> Field Trip to Museum of the American Indian in Novato (<u>drivers needed!</u>)</p> <p><b>October 10:</b> Mill Valley Film Festival (buses)</p> <p><b>October 18 and 21:</b> NO SCHOOL Teacher-Parent Conferences.</p>	<p><b>SMART: Don't forget to donate to the Willow Creek Foundation's SMART campaign.</b> The SMART campaign raises money annually to bridge the funding gap. This is where we get our classroom budgets for classroom/student supplies, field trips, etc. Donations also support the Art Teacher, Music Teacher, the Librarian and many other important programs that directly benefit our kids. You can donate on-line at <a href="http://www.WillowCreekAcademy.org/donate">www.WillowCreekAcademy.org/donate</a> or by cash/check in the main office. Every single donation is appreciated. So, please consider giving an amount appropriate to your family. D.O.G. (Day Of Giving) calls are scheduled!.</p> <p><b>PARENT COUNCIL:</b> Check at the front office for dates of meetings . The meetings are a great time to meet community, and learn about education.</p> <p>Thank you so much for your support!</p> <p>*More information about school events in the School-wide Friday post!</p>

### Curriculum Corner

#### **Math:**

We started our second unit, it's on *volume*! This week students were introduced to the formula for a rectangular prism  $v = l \times w \times h$ . That's three dimensions: *length x width x height = volume*. Next week they will be applying this to irregular rectangles to section the shape, and all of the volumes to make the combined volume.

**PRACTICE MULTIPLICATION FACTS AT HOME!! Students should know their multiplication facts to 10x10!**

[Nerdy memorization Video](#)  
[Multiplication Blaster Game](#)  
[Multiplication Game](#)

#### **Science**

This week, we observed *chemical reactions*. Students investigated the question "Why do things bubble or change color?" They created their own (small) explosions by combining vinegar and baking soda in a plastic bag. Then, they developed models to explain how gas bubbles caused the bag to inflate and pop.

You can encourage your child's curiosity at home! Watch this video of dry ice soap bubbles together: <http://safeyoutube.net/w/gGzc>. (You can even try making dry ice bubbles yourself using dry ice from the grocery store!)

### **Writing**

Students spent energy narrowing down the focus of their narratives. First, we "Picked a Seed" idea from the story ideas they have written in the last two weeks. They identified in their stories "The Big Thing That Happened", and, using a story arc, detailed what led up to the BGH and then the events that followed. They are increasing the volume of their writing every day.

### **Reading**

We finished reading Tiger Rising, and discussed figurative language, character motivation, and modeled other strategies to increase comprehension while reading independently. Students also practiced silent sustained reading, to continue building stamina and reinforce routines.

### **ELA/Social Studies**

Looking at the *artifacts* of the Native Americans, and listening to the *folklore*, we started to learn more about how the geography, the land, really influenced their culture.

## References

Scholastic book orders:  
Schmidt code: **HLCDT**  
St. Denny code: **MKQPP**

### [Homework Calendar Link](#)

Website: **Math & Spelling** [www.pearsonrealize.com](http://www.pearsonrealize.com)

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

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

Website: **Dreambox** <https://play.dreambox.com/login/z7a8/willowca>

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

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

Website: **Mystery Science** is helping us through our first unit, Chemistry.  
Check it out!

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### **5th Grade Specials:**

Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
	8:35-9:00 <b>Library</b> (every other week)	10:20-11:10	10:20-11:00 <b>P.E.</b>

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