



Dear Fifth Grade Parents,

We hope you are having a wonderful summer! We are excited for the new school year ahead! We have been in close communication about the fifth grade curriculum and all that is needed for this new year while Mrs. Banach takes her maternity leave. The fifth graders are in great hands and will have a wonderful fall semester, which will begin with the study of the ancient civilizations of India and Persia.

This new year brings much more responsibility and independent work, as well as higher expectations for organization and timeliness in handing in school assignments. This year, much of Main Lesson book work and illustrations will be done in colored pencil. Each student should supply their own set of woodless colored pencils that can be purchased at the local art supply store (JWS in Great Barrington or on Amazon). Some good quality brands are Prismacolor and Koh-I-Noor pencils by Progresso.

As Mrs. Banach prepares for the arrival of her little one, all questions concerning the first few days of school can be directed to Ms. Alessandra. She can be contacted via email at salessandra@gbrss.org. You can also contact Lynn Arches, larches@gbrss.org or Sue Dass, schooldirector@gbrss.org with questions as well. Ms. Alessandra will be available for meetings during her weekly drop-in office hour, which will be posted outside of the classroom on the first day of school.

All fifth graders should arrive on the first day of school in assembly dress and bring their completed summer reading assignments to hand in, as well as a cup to keep in the classroom for drinking water.

We are in search of a parent representative to represent the 5th grade class at monthly Parent Association meetings. This is a wonderful way to stay involved in both the parent and larger school communities! Please let Ms. Alessandra know if you are interested!

Here are two important dates to add to your calendars:

Back to School Potluck - 9/7/19 at 5:30pm - 5th graders, siblings and families are invited to our class potluck to be held at Lake Mansfield in Great Barrington. Please bring a dish to share and your swimsuit!

Back to School Night - 9/19/19 at 6:30pm - Please make sure your family is represented by at least one parent. Our new school director, Sue Dass, will give an opening presentation, followed by individual classes meeting in their respective classrooms.

We look forward to a wonderful fifth grade year!

Warmly,
Mrs. Banach and Ms. Alessandra