

# Welcome to Mr. Somoza's Fifth Grade Class!!!

Dear Students and Parents,

Welcome to fifth grade! I'm excited to know that you will be in my class. I can't wait to get to know you better! This will be my 18th year teaching at Stevens, and my 27th year of teaching. I guess that makes me sound pretty old, but I enjoy it more and more every year. It's going to be a very unusual year, but I'm so happy that you've chosen to be a part of the virtual elementary school, and I know we'll have a lot of fun together. We have so much to look forward to. Fifth grade is always a special year for kids, and we'll make it very special this year as well.

In preparation for virtual fifth grade, you will need some supplies. If possible, please try to have the items listed below for the start of school. Note: some of the supplies on this list were requested by your art teacher, so you may need them for your art class each week.

## Supply List:

- 12 sharpened pencils with erasers
- 2 large erasers
- 1 small handheld pencil sharpener
- 1 small pair of scissors
- 2 big glue sticks
- 1 highlighter
- 1 pack of colored pencils
- 1 pack of crayons
- 1 pack of thin markers
- 1 pack of thick markers
- 3-4 fine-point Sharpie markers
- 1 ruler with both metric and customary units (cm. and in.)
- 1 pencil box or large zip-lock bag to hold your supplies
- One 1½" three-ring binder
- 1 pack of binder dividers
- 100 sheets of lined binder paper (wide ruled)
- 1 spiral notebook of Graph Paper for math (100 sheets)
- 2 composition notebooks
- 1 pair of earbuds (headphones)
- 1 great sense of humor

## **Technology**

- Please check to make sure that the chromebook you got from school last year is working well. If not, please email me right away. Also, be sure that you have the charger and the stylus for it. Turn it on and login, so that the chromebook will get all of the newest updates. Also, be sure that you have access to a printer. Most of what we do will be online, but every once in a while you may have items to print, so you should be able to print from your chromebook.

## **Notes**

- I know that there are times when finding all of the items on a class list can be challenging. If you can't find a specific item, a suitable alternative is fine. If you have any questions, please feel free to email me: [dsomoza@bhbl.org](mailto:dsomoza@bhbl.org)
- Thank you, and have a great rest of your summer!!

## Summer Activities

I have a few suggestions of things that you can work on over the last few weeks of summer to help you get ready for 5<sup>th</sup> grade:

- **It is important that you have a quick recall of all math facts (addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division) by the first day of school.** Please make or purchase flashcards over the summer and practice your addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division facts (0-12). You can also practice them online. Below are a few helpful math websites:
  - o Please participate in the Summer Math Challenge. Link to [Reflex Math](#) student login
  - o Math Fact Practice: <http://www.brainormous.com/>
    - Multiflyer: Click “Play Now” When the screen comes up, click on the “Skip to Multiflyer” button at the bottom right.
      - This will take you to a fun math game that will help you to practice your math facts.
    - Math-teroids: They have one game for each (addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division). They’re fun games that will also help you to learn your facts.
  - o More Math Activities: <http://www.aplusmath.com/>
  - o Place Value Games: <http://www.gamequarium.com/placevalue.html>
  - o More Place Value Games: <http://www.funbrain.com/tens/index.html>
  - o Great Practice Problems: <http://www.coolmath.com/>
- **As you can imagine, we will be using chromebooks every day. If you are not a fast typist, please practice to improve your keyboarding skills when you have time.** There are some great websites, like Typing.com or software programs for purchase like “Type to Learn” and “Mavis Beacon.”
- **Find a great book or book series to explore in the next few weeks.**
- **Keep a journal to record your awesome summer adventures.**
- **Google Classroom - check your email, because soon I’ll be inviting you to join our new Google Classroom for the coming year.**
- Most of all, I hope you have a wonderful rest of the summer with your family. It will be so great to have you in my class! I look forward to meeting you very soon!

Your 5<sup>th</sup> grade teacher,  
Mr. Somoza  
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