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5th Grade Newsletter

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SUBJECT	TOPIC	SUGGESTIONS FOR SUPPORT AT HOME
Reading	Fantasy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Encourage your child to share with you their write-longs about the fantasy reading they do each day. ❖ Talk with your child about symbols and power within the fantasy stories that they are reading in school within book clubs. ❖ Ask your child to identify the elements of fantasy in the stories that they are reading at home. ❖ Be sure you child is reading for 60 minutes every night.
Writing	Fantasy Writing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Look at your child's Writer's Notebook and ask them to explain their fantasy writing station work. ❖ Encourage your child to think like a fantasy story writer by looking at normal, everyday people, places and events, and asking themselves, "What if?" ❖ Talk with your child about the typical story arc of a fantasy story. ❖ Help your child to recall their background as narrative writers from our earlier unit this year. Students will draw on all of those narrative writing skills and strategies as they create their own works of fantasy.
Math	Complex Problem Solving with Real World Situations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Have your children share with you how we are incorporating Math, Science and ELA together in our classroom projects. ❖ Challenge your child to a math solving exhibition. See how many problems you can each solve in a variety of ways. ❖ Discuss with your children our problem-solving explorations happening in class and ask them to share some of the strategies with you.
Science	Health and Nutrition and Science Fair	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Help your child research and find articles on their science fair topic. ❖ Discuss with your child what they have learned while during their experiments and offer to let them experiment on you. ❖ Research and discuss the important functions of our body system. ❖ Join us on our Science Fair Curriculum Day to view all the amazing work that your child completed while experimenting in class!
Social Studies	Westward Hemisphere Today	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Talk with your child about the current Western Hemisphere issue they researched. ❖ Read (and read some more) with your child about both sides of those issues. ❖ Look at relevant graphs, maps, and charts regarding current issues in the Western Hemisphere and encourage your child to tell you the big ideas they express.

Focus of the Month – S-T-E-M

This month we continue our deeper thinking within the subjects of Science, Technology, Engineering and Math, focusing on providing students with cohesive, interdisciplinary activities that promote **critical thinking**. Throughout the school year, students have been immersed in activities that required perseverance skills, cooperative learning and logical reasoning. As a cross-curriculum culminating task, students will be working on science fair experiments, where their knowledge of grade appropriate math, science, reading and writing will be applied to successfully complete each task. While students will be completing their experiments in school, there will be certain related assignments that will need to be completed at home. To support your child with this STEM project, you can support them in drawing evidence from informational texts to support analysis, reflection, and research of their experiment. In addition, you can encourage them develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, editing, and rewriting as necessary.