



WELCOME TO 5TH GRADE!

As-salaamu-alaikum! 😊

My name is Sakinah Ali and I will be your scholar's 5th grade teacher for the upcoming school year. I have been an educator for over 15 years, the last five years with 5th graders. I'm looking forward to getting to know you and guiding your child through a successful fifth grade.

My years of experience as a teacher have shaped a teaching philosophy that guides how I help my students succeed in the classroom and beyond. I truly believe that their success begins with making them comfortable in the classroom, so I start our school year with plenty of activities so everyone can get to know one another.

I try to create an environment where students explore their own learning styles and then help to develop their interests. I also believe that hands-on experience and the "Arts" help create a better learning environment, so we will have many such activities.

CLASS SCHEDULE

5th grade will run somewhat on a “block” schedule.

Mondays - *Science*

Tuesdays - *ELA*

Wednesdays - *Social Studies*

Thursdays - *Math*

Fridays - *Islamic Studies*

- ❖ I find that students learn better when they are not constantly switching subjects throughout the day. Although they may have the subject once a week, there will be plenty of daily, cross-curricular moments where students will work on whatever content they have learned that week, for each subject.
- ❖ Students will receive new spelling words every Monday.
- ❖ Quran, Arabic and Physical Education classes will also be incorporated into their weekly schedule.

HOMEWORK

- ❖ Students will have homework ***Mondays - Thursdays*** (unless otherwise noted)
- ❖ Students will write their homework in their ***Agenda Book***.
- ❖ Each student will have a ***homework binder***. Please check the binder daily for information coming from the school, papers that may need to be signed, etc.
- ❖ Students will receive a ***10 point daily deduction*** for any late assignments.
- ❖ If a student is absent, it is his/her responsibility to make-up any missing assignments or obtain any missing notes.

BEHAVIOR BUCKS FINANCIAL LITERACY PROGRAM

The students will engage in a financial literacy program called "Behavior Bucks." How it works:

1. Students who arrive on time to school will receive \$1.00 in Behavior Bucks each day.
2. Students who are late will receive \$.75.
3. Students who come for half of the day will receive \$.50.
4. Students who are absent, no matter the reason, will not receive any Behavior Bucks.
5. Students will be able to purchase real items from the "Store." This will be stocked by weekly snacks donated by parents insha'Allah.
6. Students will have to keep track of their debits and credits daily.
7. There will be multiple ways for students to earn and lose money throughout the school year.

SEA VOYAGERS!

Each month the students will “visit” a different country. They will learn about the history, economy, food, culture, climate, money, etc. of the country. We will make an effort to visit each continent before the end of the school year.

Students will be allowed to recommend and vote on the country they would like to visit!

At the end of each month, the students will be allowed to dress-up in the traditional clothes of whatever country we are visiting. We will have food, complete an art project, and experience the music of that country. It's an enjoyable way to learn!

If a student's behavior is not appropriate when it's time for the festivities, he/she will not be allowed to participate.

CLASS EXPECTATIONS

I will review the expectations in class, however I also want parents to be aware of them so you can discuss them with your scholar:

1. Enter the classroom quietly and be seated. Check to see if there are instructions on the board or projection screen concerning work to do.
2. Be prepared with your supplies all year. Some of your supplies will have to be replaced during the year.
3. School begins at 8:00. Please be in your seat and ready to work at that time. Bring a written explanation from your parents when you are tardy or absent. After three days without a note, an absence is considered unexcused.
4. If you have been absent, it is your responsibility to see the teacher(s) to make arrangements for make-up work on the day you return. Remember that you have one day for each day you were absent plus one extra day to complete and turn in your make-up work. (Absent 2 days = 3 days for make-up work).
5. You are responsible for keeping your books in good condition.
6. When someone comes into the room to speak with the teacher, you should quietly remain in your seat until the teacher can return to the group. This is also true in case of a phone call.
7. Do not expect to leave the room during class except in an emergency.

8. Physical Education is a regular class. To be excused from participation, bring a note from a parent stating the reason. Wear the correct shoes for that day.

9. Any staff member has the authority and the responsibility to correct students who are misbehaving. Remember that we have a school-wide discipline plan.

10. A check will be placed in your Discipline Folder if there is a problem with your behavior. Two checks will be recorded for severe disruptions.. Positive checks can be earned by showing noticeable improvement in behavior.

11. You will receive Progress Reports during a grading period to help you determine your academic progress. These should be signed and returned the next day.

12. Your grades and your citizenship will affect your ability to participate in some special 5th grade programs. You must maintain a passing average in all subjects and an E or S in citizenship to take part in those activities.

13. Daily work and homework that needs to be completed should be kept in the Assignment Pocket of your folder in your homework binder. Careful use of your binder will help you avoid forgetting when you have work to complete.

14. Assignments should be written daily in the Assignment Book kept in the homework binder. All assigned papers should be filed in the correct folders in the binder until they are turned in. Your binder should be kept neat and orderly.

15. Daily work with a grade below a 70 must be corrected.

16. Papers sent home for a parent signature should be returned promptly the next day.

I want all scholars to have a successful year. If help is needed, please come to me, and I will work with you to plan a way for you to achieve success. We have many days of fun, excitement, discovery, and hard work ahead of us. It is my hope that we will have the very best school year possible, and that you will grow academically, socially, and responsibly. Working as a team of students, parents, and teachers we will accomplish these goals.

2025-2026 SUPPLY LIST 5TH GRADE

FOR THE STUDENT:

1. **One** - 2025-2026 Agenda Book (for recording assignments)
2. **One** - Two-inch (2") binder
3. **Ten** - Composition Notebooks.
4. **One** - Pencil box
5. **One** - Pair of scissors
6. **Two** - Glue sticks
7. **Two** - Highlighters (**Yellow & Orange**)
8. **Four** - Boxes of **#2** pencils to last the entire year
9. **One** - Box of colored pencils
10. **One** - box of Washable Markers
11. **One** - pack of **12x18** construction paper (**multi-color**)
12. **One** - 12" Ruler
13. **Six** - 3-hole punched pocket folders (*Please make sure they have holes to go into the binder.*)
14. **One** blue Seat Sack -
<https://www.schoolspecialty.com/seat-sack-storage-pocket-medium-15-inches-blue-1388405>
15. **One** - Apron
16. **One** - Pair of goggles
17. **One** pair of headphones or earbuds
18. *The City of Ember* - **ISBN 978-0385371353**
19. *Bud, Not Buddy* - **ISBN 978-0440413288**
20. *Indian in the Cupboard* - **ISBN 978-0375847530**

For the Classroom:

1. **Two** - Containers of disinfecting wipes
2. **Two** - Rolls of paper towels
3. **Two** - Boxes of tissues
4. **Two** - Packs of dry erase markers
5. **One** - Pack of index cards