



5S SUPPLY LIST & FAQ



Dear 5S Families,

The first day of school is a little over two weeks away, but most stores have had back-to-school supplies on display for most of the summer. This makes many of us eager to buy new gear before school begins. For this reason, I am sending you a supply list now, so you know what to get and what not to get before the start of school. If you are traveling, it is fine to wait until school begins.



ITEMS WE (TEACHERS) WILL HAVE READY FOR YOUR CHILD

- One red 3-Ring Binder for Home/School work
- Sheet protectors for references inside red binder
- Dragon Agenda Book

SUPPLIES YOU *COULD* BRING IN

* Please put your child's name on these so they don't get mixed up with other 5S students.

** Also, I am not sponsoring any companies, but I have found some supplies work better than others, so I have added a little commentary.

- A good quality handheld pencil sharpener with a cover for shavings. *Staedtler* pencil sharpeners last longer and sharpen better 
- A box of 12 or more colored pencils
- A box of thick and a box of thin colored markers: Mr. Sketch Markers have a more vibrant color and last longer. Of course, any brand will be fine. Some people find Mr. Sketch easier to find online 
- One or two large erasers: The ones on pencils always wear out before the pencil does
- A few low odor dry erase markers (any color): We use a LOT of dry erase markers on big and small white boards
- A few packets of Post-Its: Any color. Square or rectangle: We use them a lot to keep track of thinking and reading
- A few glue sticks
- Scissors
- Reusable WATER BOTTLE! This is key as students should be drinking lots of water throughout the day and we try to not use single use plastics - please put name is on it.

TURN OVER TO BACK OF THIS SHEET FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT SUPPLIES!

CLASSROOM SUPPLIES

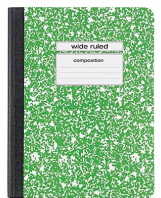
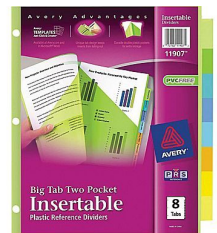
The following items will be kept in our supply closet for the class to use as needed. These items *do not need to be labeled* because everyone will share them.

- ❑ 1 box of tissues: spiffy or pretty boxes preferred
- ❑ 1 or more boxes of pencils. Any pencils are fine, but I have found Ticonderoga pencils sharpen better. We go through a lot of pencils, so we appreciate having a large supply ready to go
- ❑ **Lavender Method All Purpose Natural Cleaning Spray** (good smell and non-toxic!)



OPTIONAL

- ❑ Dividers with tabs for their home/school red binders - the plastic dividers with pockets are more useful
- ❑ Mechanical pencils/lead: Some children prefer to write with them.
- ❑ Chopsticks or reusable cutlery to cut down on plastics.
- ❑ Speckled Wide Rule Composition Book – The school will provide black composition books, but I have noticed they are getting thinner each year. If your child wants a colored one, they are often on sale at this time of year at office supply stores.
- ❑ One or two black roller or gel pens: We use them for final drafts and illustrating
- ❑ One or two pencil boxes to contain these school supplies in their desks



That's it for supplies. I hope the lists make sense. I know I sound rather picky. The truth is I am rather picky (my children would tell you I am), but when you have 24 or so students each year using these items, you get a pretty good sense of what works or not.

~ Ms. Stark

Below are some answers to...

F.AQ. (Frequently Asked Questions)



ARRIVAL: 5th graders are expected to arrive at 7:50 a.m. We start morning meeting each day at 8:00 sharp. When students have time to unpack, greet everyone and complete the morning message before 8:00 it creates a calmer day. Some students who are late, tend to be only 5 or so minutes late, so it usually just takes a little tweaking to get a routine that works.

SNACK: I have found that 5th graders get hungry a lot. I would rather students listen to each other and to me rather than to their stomachs reminding them it's snack time. Thus, I ask students come to school each day with at least one healthy snack (*no soda or candy*) that doesn't need a fork or a microwave to eat.

HOMEWORK: 5th graders are given *around* one hour of homework Monday-Thursday. We try to make homework interesting and effective. If your child gets overwhelmed, or is speeding through, we can adjust things. We believe in a work hard- no stress policy.

ABSENCES: If your child is going to be absent, you should let the office know as soon as you can and you should also let me know. I can be reached at francesca_stark@psbma.org. If you are going on a family trip and your child will miss school, I cannot replicate what we do in class. We are not a worksheet based classroom. I can give your child things to write about and research that connects to some of the topics we do.

STAYING INFORMED: In early October, there will be an open house where families can get a fuller picture of life in the 5th grade. I will also post information on our 5S website that will have photos, curriculum, up and coming events and many other items that will help you feel fully informed. The address of our 5S Website is: 5stark2018-19.weebly.com If you don't have access to the internet, please let me know and I can send home hard copies of all information.

INFORMAL LISTENING CONFERENCE: Last, but not least, I find it's great to have an informal listening conference early in the year. This is not an official parent conference. It's just a brief meeting so we can see each other face-to-face and so you can share anything you think might be useful for me to know about your child as we start the year. 15-minute slots are available starting the 2nd week of school. I will send home a sign-up sheet on Friday, September 7th.

That's it for now. The 5th grade team is looking forward to many adventures. Enjoy the remaining days of summer.



Sincerely,
Francesca Stark