

**Dear Parents,**

**Welcome to February!**

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This month in Literacy we are going to begin reading *George's Secret Key to the Universe*. The skills we are working on are: main idea, cause and effect, and synthesizing information from multiple texts. In writing we are focusing primarily on the rainforest. Students will be writing informational essays based on the rainforest using our mentor texts and additional information gathered from research.

In mathematics, we are wrapping up our unit on multiplying fractions and moving forward we will be focusing our attention on division of fractions.

Our current theme of social studies is Canada. The Native Americans located in the Western Hemisphere were the Inuit and we will investigate how they adapted to their environment, their accomplishments, and contributions.

In science, students will be wrapping up their investigation of scientific procedures and pendulums.

**TEST PREP**

We are now using *Ready New York CCLS* which is an integrated program of assessment and instruction for English Language Arts. We are using this book in a supplemental way to address specific standards where our students need instruction and practice to prepare for the New York State Exams.

We will be using *Ready New York CCLS* to review content and skills for the New York State Tests for Mathematics. We will review strategies to answer multiple-choice questions, short-response questions, and extended-response questions.

**SAVE THE DATES:**

**February 9<sup>th</sup> - Fun Friday**

**February 16<sup>th</sup> – Lunar New Year, School Closed**

**February 19<sup>th</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup> – Midwinter Recess, School Closed**

*The Fifth Grade Teachers*