

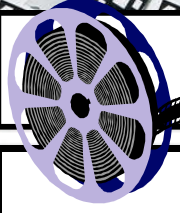


# Griffis Superstar Studio

4/5 Multiage

You're a star in Mrs. Griffis's Class!

Week of August 29th



## WEEKLY FEATURES

<b>MATH</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Beginning of the Year Pre- Assessment</li> <li>Topic 1: Numeration/ Place Value, Comparing and Ordering Whole Numbers &amp; Decimals, Looking for a Pattern</li> </ul>
<b>READING</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Beginning of the Year Pre- Assessment</li> <li>Story of the Week: <b>Frindle</b>, Plot &amp; Character</li> <li>Weekly Reading Cards: Read 120 min. each week (Handed out on Monday and due the following Monday)</li> <li>Choose and begin reading your Monthly Book Pick (Evaluation- week of Sep. 26th)</li> </ul>
<b>GRAMMAR</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>"Caught Ya!" Daily Grammar Editing</li> <li>Four Kinds of Sentences &amp; Interjections</li> </ul>
<b>WRITING</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Beginning of the Year Pre-Assessment</li> <li>Journaling &amp; Editing</li> </ul>
<b>FIFTH GRADE PHONICS</b>	Instead of traditional spelling, I will be teaching students strategies for spelling words using a phonics-based program. This week we will focus on <i>High Frequency, Commonly Misspelled Words</i> : <b>because, friends, have, laugh, off, people, said, they, until, want</b>
<b>VOCAB.</b>	<i>(reading) acquainted, assignment, essential, expanded, guaranteed, procedures, reputation, worshipped (science) dichotomy key (social studies) artifacts</i>
<b>SOCIAL STUDIES</b>	Students will participate in an <b>Artifact</b> Inquiry Simulation & learn about the Cohokia Mounds in Illinois, which will begin our study of Pre-Columbian US History.
<b>SCIENCE</b>	Scientific Inquiry and Reasoning: The students will plan and conduct scientific investigations using a <b>dichotomy key</b> in classifying objects.

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR!



Mon. Aug. 29 WELCOME BACK!

Mon. Sep. 5 Off-Labor Day Holiday

Mon. Sep 12 FES Open House @ 5:00- Informational PowerPoint

Mon. Sep. 26: Book Pick Evaluation

Thu. Sep. 29 Early Release for required teacher training (11:30)

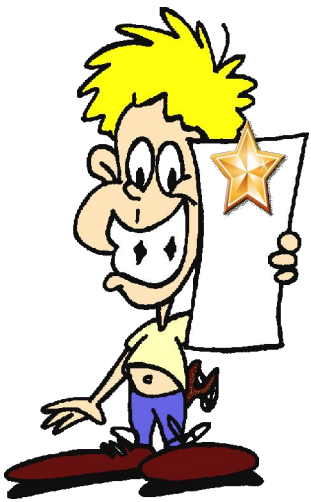
Mon. Oct 10 Off- Columbus Day Holiday

## WARM UP WEEK

We will do our best to complete the "Weekly Features;" however, being the first week of school, some work may need to be carried over to next week since we will be covering quite a few new procedures and pre-assessments. Consider this our "practice week." I hope to give students a chance to settle in & feel comfortable with the class work, routines, and just the newness of the year. I can already tell it's going to be a FANTASTIC week.....and year!







## GRADES

90-100 A  
 80-89 B  
 70-79 C  
 60-69 D  
 50-59 F

**LATE WORK:** This year I will not be accepting late work. I feel it's very important to hold students accountable for turning in work on time.

**ABSENCES:** It is the students' responsibility to make sure any makeup work is completed and turned in within 3 days after you return from an absence. Missing work will be placed in a black basket on their desks when they return.

**LESS THAN 50%:** I will not give less than a 50% on any assignments. I know how devastating a "0" can be to a child's grade, and I always want children to feel with effort, any grade can be brought up. For work not turned in, a 50 will be given. For work turned in, but receiving a 50 or below, a 51 will be given. This will allow parents to distinguish between complete and incomplete work. Missing work will be noted in agenda and will show up on regularly sent out progress reports.

**PROGRESS REPORTS** You can access your children's grades at any time on GradeSpeed. Please be sure to sign up online for this access. Address is found on our classroom website on the Parents' Place Page. If you have any problems, please let me know.

**CONCERNS:** If you ever have any concerns about your child's progress or grades, please don't hesitate to ask. With all of us working together, success is assured!

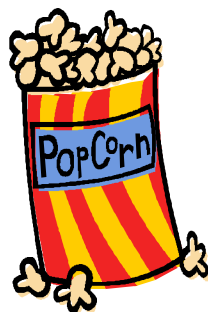
Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_

## EXTRA SUPPLIES



*In addition to the regular supply list, I am asking that students also bring:*

- **One accordion-style folder** with at least 7 sections and labels (1 to 1 1/2 inch base)
- **Two red pens**
- **One thick and one thin black Sharpie** or one dual
- **Tray of watercolors** (any brand)



## HEALTHY SNACKS

Please allow your child to prepare a healthy snack for themselves every day since our lunchtime is the latest time of the day.

(popcorn, nuts, fruits, vegetables, crackers and cheese, homemade trail mix, etc.)

## HOMework FOR PARENTS

Please fill out the following forms:

1. *Parent Contact Form*
2. *Parent Volunteer Form*
3. *Parent Questionnaire*

Please return  
by Sep. 6th

Please remember to check and sign:

- Agenda each night
- Reading Card after your child has read





## A MESSAGE FROM THE TEACHER



Dear Families,

*I am really excited about starting a new year with your child! This is my 22nd year of teaching, and I'm so fortunate to have a job that's my hobby! I have had the opportunity to teach just about every grade K-8 and art K-5. I have taught in Hattiesburg, Mississippi for 13 years, Misawa, Japan, for 4 years, and this is my 6<sup>th</sup> year at Feltwell. It's hard to believe that many of my former students have already started their own families, several have careers as teachers, and one whom I talked to this summer is just beginning his first year as a medical doctor. It's such an honor to touch the lives of so many wonderful people throughout the years, and I look forward to being a part of your child's life this year and beyond!*

*My inspiration for becoming a teacher and teaching overseas stemmed from my own experience of being a student of DoDDS at Woodbridge Elementary in England from the 1st to 4th grade. I remember the excitement of being in such a magical place as England and other places we moved, but I also remember the anxiety I felt as a new kid at school. So I've always made a point to make sure every one of my students feels accepted and safe that they will be treated with respect by me and the other classmates.*

*I'm so excited about looping with so many of my students from last year because of the wonderful group of kids I have had and also the great experience I had with looping a few years back. I'm equally excited about meeting all the new students joining our class! We will all work together to make this the best year ever!*

*My love for teaching and children derives from being a mother of three. I have two sons, 23 & 21, who are both attending Mississippi State University, and a 14 year old daughter, who will begin her first year of high school at LHS. My husband is also a teacher at Lakenheath Middle Schools as an 8<sup>th</sup> grade science and PE teacher. Be assured that I will treat your children as they are my own and will do everything I can to make their experience in my classroom the best it can be.*

*My goal is for my students to be personally responsible for their school work and behavior, do their best at everything, and to find ways to "go above and beyond the call of duty," which is our class motto.*

*I'm always on the lookout for fun, learning-filled activities to get students excited about learning, and since I love technology, I frequently include it into my lessons. I hope your child enjoys learning as much as I do teaching.*

*Please keep in touch throughout this year, and let me know if there is anything I can do to make your child's learning experience even better!*

*I'm looking forward to a fantastic year!*

Your child's teacher,  
Karen Griffis

Please keep in touch: [Karen.Griffis@eu.dodea.edu](mailto:Karen.Griffis@eu.dodea.edu)  
226-7003/7004 or write a note in agenda



Mrs. Griffis as a military child in England with sisters and friends in 3rd Grade (very right)



Visit our Classroom Website

@ <http://griffissuperstars.weebly.com>

*Note: You will need to type address directly into the Explorer bar. (Save to favorites for easy access.)*