J.F.K. Eagle E-News

Stay on the flight path jfk.windsorct.org

Week of October 23rd, 2026

From the Nurse

November is a season of change, gratitude, and reflection. It is the last month of the fall season. November can bring colder weather, but children can still remain active when indoors. Have an indoor dance party in the family room. Set up a fun and safe obstacle course in the home.

Flu season often starts in November. Follow some prevention tips to keep your child in school and healthy. Encourage frequent handwashing since hand sanitizer does not prevent norovirus. Cough and sneeze into the elbow sleeve, get the flu vaccine, and stay home if there is a fever or vomiting. Preventing illness from spreading among students and staff is essential.

November is American Diabetes Awareness Month. Do you know the symptoms of diabetes? They can include increased thirst, hunger, and urination. A fruity smell on the breath, nausea, and vomiting are also signs. Contact your pediatrician if you have any concerns. A healthy child and family is something to be grateful for.

5th Grade Update

Our introductory unit, “Getting Started: We Are All Mathematicians!” is coming to an end, and students will complete the Unit 1 assessment next week. Next up, we will begin Unit 2: Whole Number Multiplication and Division. Throughout this unit, fluency builders will help reinforce students’ number sense and core skills. Please continue encouraging your child to practice and study their math facts at home—focusing on multiplication first, followed by division! What We’re Learning Next:

Multiplying by 10: Exploring patterns and place value shifts. Multi-Digit Strategies: Applying multiplication and division methods to real-world, contextual situations. Problem-Solving Skills: Analyzing complex problems to evaluate and select the best solution paths.We are so proud of the focus, curiosity, and growth our 5th graders are already showing every day. Ask your child to share one of their favorite math strategies with you tonight!

5th Grade Humanities Update:Our fifth-grade Humanities classes are putting the finishing touches on Sharon Creech’s beloved novel, *Walk Two Moons*. As we wrap up our reading, students are diving into informative writing, focusing on how to organize research, craft clear thesis statements, and present facts effectively.

Next up, our curriculum takes an exciting interdisciplinary turn as we bridge reading with science! Our next anchor text, *Animal Cells*, introduces a science-based theme where students will explore the microscopic building blocks of life. Throughout this unit, young scientists will study key cell structures and their functions—including the nucleus, Golgi apparatus, cell membrane, and other essential organelles—while practicing non-fiction reading strategies and technical vocabulary.

Dates To Remember

- **October 26th:** Parent Coffee Talk 6:00 - 7:00 p.m.
- **November 3rd** No School Election day

Links: Cafeteria Menus Virtual Backpack

Attendance Reporting : Attendance matters

Here are options for reporting your student absent at J.F.K.

Phone Call: (860) 687 -2060

Text: jfkattendance@windsorct.org

Website: JFK website

QR Code:

A Special note about Early Dismissals: Please contact the main office in addition to the teacher if you would like to change how the student will be dismissed on a given day. Teachers could be absent so by notifying the office we can assure your student is in the correct location.

Circle of Success

Coffee, Connections, & Conversations

Overcoming obstacles

Rise & Shine

You belong

Learn why Attendance Matters

Enter a raffle for a chance to win a prize

School Achievement

Two available times to choose from:

Monday, October 26
6:00 - 7:00 PM
JFK Library
&
Thursday, October 29th
9:00 - 10:00 AM
JFK Library

Contact Beth Abbot @eabbot@windsorct.org
if you have any questions

WINDSOR TRAVEL BASKETBALL CLUB

Dear Players and Parents,

This week is the final week of tryouts for the 2026-2027 winter basketball season.

We are specifically looking for 5th-grade student athletes who would like to participate, as this year's 5th-grade registrations are lower than expected.

We want to make sure that all 5th graders who love to play basketball have heard about this opportunity to represent the town of Windsor against 15 other local towns in central Connecticut this winter during a competitive and fun 22-game schedule featuring games on Saturdays and Sundays each weekend.

Tryouts for 5th grade this week are on **Tuesday, October 27, from 6:00 to 7:30 PM** at Oliver Ellsworth School. We are also offering a last-call tryout on **Thursday, October 29, from 6:00 to 7:30 PM** for anyone unable to attend an earlier tryout night. Please register on our website, windsortravelbasketballclub.com.

Any questions, email us at info@windsortravelbasketballclub.com!

Sincerely,
Windsor Travel Basketball Club Board of Directors



5TH GRADE
FINAL TRYOUT

TUESDAY, OCT. 27
6:00 PM
to 7:30 PM
Oliver Ellsworth School

THURSDAY, OCT. 29
6:00 PM
to 7:30 PM
Oliver Ellsworth School

SCAN TO REGISTER

Questions? Contact us:
info@windsortravelbasketballclub.com



John F. Kennedy PRESENTS:

PINK OUT DAY

to support the
American Cancer Society
Breast Cancer Awareness
Campaign

WEAR PINK ON

Thursday, October 29

JFK will be collecting donations to support the American Cancer Society Breast Cancer Awareness Campaign. Please dress in your best

PINKED OUT OUTFIT

and bring your $1 suggested donation to support our effort.



Storybook Character Day

Friday, October 30th

Wear a school appropriate book character outfit



Remember… outfits may not include face coverings or weapons of any type (play included)



We look forward to seeing your creativity!



JFK Veterans Day Assembly and Recognition

In celebration of Veterans Day, JFK Staff and Students would like to pay tribute to the military members and veterans within our school family during our special assembly on Tuesday, November 10th (2:00 PM – 3:00 PM).

To honor your loved one(s) in our recognition slideshow, please submit a photo along with their name, branch of service, and rank. We look forward to celebrating their dedication and service to our country.

Send to Mrs. Blume, Assistant Principal at kblume@windsorct.org



We hope that you will be able to join us for this special assembly.

SAVE THE DATE!

LET'S MAKE THIS OUR BIGGEST EVENT YET!

OCTOBER IS ELI REMEMBRANCE MONTH

★ 3RD ANNUAL ★

EKGS for ELI



OCTOBER 27, 2026

WINDSOR HIGH SCHOOL

EKG SCREENINGS
FOR AGES 8–25
EARLY DETECTION
CAN SAVE LIVES.

NEW FOR 2026!
CPR TRAINING
BE PREPARED. BE EMPOWERED.
BE A LIFESAVER.

PROTECT THE NEXT HEARTBEAT 65

TOGETHER, WE CAN
PROTECT
THE NEXT
HEARTBEAT

REGISTRATION NOW OPEN!

SCAN HERE
TO REGISTER!

E·JMR
ALWAYS 65
PROTECT THE NEXT HEARTBEAT

SPONSORED BY

In A Heartbeat
Screening Hearts. *Saving Lives.*

FOR MORE INFORMATION:
Always65.com
Inaheartbeat.org

♥ SCREENED | ♥ EMPOWERED | ♥ SAVED

★ *TOGETHER, WE CAN SAVE THE NEXT GENERATION.* ★

EARLY DETECTION ★ CPR TRAINING ★ STRONGER TOGETHER ★ SAVING LIVES

WINDSOR PUBLIC SCHOOLS

WINDSOR VOICES

Civic Engagement Day

DISTRICTWIDE DAY OF CIVIC LEARNING

October 28, 2026

A nonpartisan educational experience focused on civic learning and community engagement.

Learn. Speak. Participate.

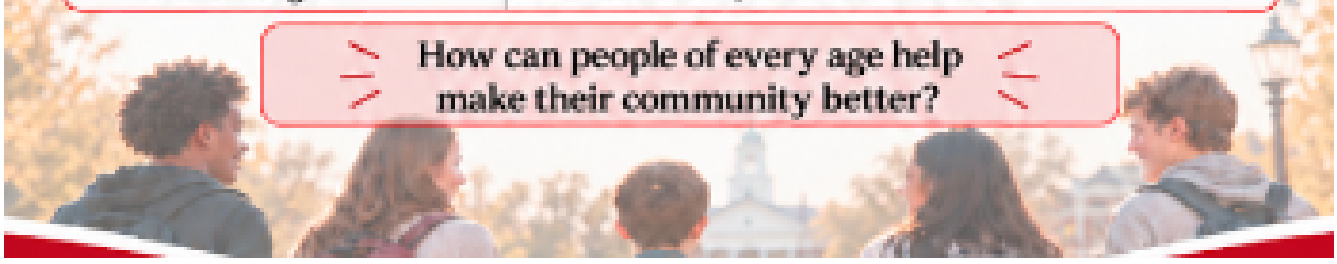
Windsor Public Schools will host a districtwide day of civic learning for students in grades K–12. Through age-appropriate lessons, guest speakers, and classroom experiences, students will explore local government, informed participation, respectful dialogue, and community responsibility.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT | RESPECTFUL DIALOGUE | COMMUNITY RESPONSIBILITY | LEADERSHIP | PARTICIPATION

Civic Day Speakers

School	Speaker
Poquonock	Jane Garibay, State Representative for the 60th House District
Oliver Ellsworth	Kristin Gluck-Hoffman, Windsor Town Council
Clover Street	James Madison, BOE Member
JFK	Maxine Davis, BOE Member
Sage Park	Pre-Recorded BOE President Ayana Taylor
Windsor High	Pre-Recorded Mayor Nuchette Black-Burke

How can people of every age help make their community better?





JFK Eagle's Nest School Store

November 20
December 18
January 29

February 26
March 25
April 30
May 28

The school store will be open the entire day as listed above. Students will visit the store with their class.

Looking for volunteers to staff our school store!

Interested in volunteering?

Scan the QR code or visit the link below to sign up. Click on the school store icon to view one-hour time slots. Volunteers may sign up for multiple slots.

https://bit.ly/4iuOZWq

WINDSOR PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Office of Family & Community Partnerships
Windsor Public Schools

Upcoming Events

OFFICE OF FAMILY & COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS (OFCP)
WINDSOR PUBLIC SCHOOLS

SAT OCT 10

"Who Let the Dogs Out?"

Watch Dogs Football Saturday Family & Fun Event

12:00 PM – 4:00 PM | Sage Park Middle School Gym



TUE OCT 13

Understanding High Quality Instructional Practices at WPS

Learn what high quality instruction looks like in Windsor and how you can support your child's learning at home.

6:00 PM – 7:30 PM | Sage Park Middle School



TUE NOV 10

Mental Health & Managing Anxiety

Strategies, resources, and support for helping students and families thrive.

6:00 PM – 7:30 PM | Sage Park Middle School



DEC TBD

Winter Wonderland and Family Event

Join us for a festive, family-friendly celebration! Date and details to be announced.



TUE FEB 23

Financial Literacy & Investing Decisions for College and Beyond

Learn practical strategies for saving, investing, and planning for your child's future.

6:00 PM – 7:30 PM | Sage Park Middle School



SAT MAR 20

NCAA March Madness Family Fun Event

Games, activities, and fun for the whole family! More details to come.



TUE APR 27

OFCP Volunteer Appreciation Dinner

Celebrating the incredible volunteers who make




WINDSOR
PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Office of FAMILY & COMMUNITY Partnerships
Windsor Public Schools
WHO LET THE DOGS OUT?
WATCH D.O.G.S.
FOOTBALL SATURDAY
FAMILY & FUN EVENT
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 10
12:00 PM – 4:00 PM
SAGE PARK MIDDLE SCHOOL GYM
Join us for an afternoon of football-themed family fun, community connection, and engagement for all families.
ALL FAMILIES ARE WELCOME!

Join JFK's Run Club



What: A running club meeting once per week at JFK School.

Who: Open to all students at JFK in grades four and five.

When: Friday Mornings from 7:45 am to 8:30 am.
October 2 - November 20.

Why: To promote and create awareness of healthy lifestyles, with a focus on health and physical education through a voluntary, goal orientated running program.

Goal: Students will run 12 to 25 miles over a five week period and become stronger runners while having fun with like minded peers and staff!

Are you interested?

Complete the form and return it to the office:

Name: _____ Teacher: _____

Grade (circle) 4 5

Any Special Considerations: (circle) No Yes

If yes, Please explain what the staff should be aware of:

_____

_____

_____


MAY 2027
9
SAVE THE DATE
10
JFK ART SHOW!
More details coming soon.
Contact
with any questions
16
17

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Your child will be a member of the before-school program called the Early Birds! This club allows your student to come to school early, read a book in peace and quiet, and have some time to read for pleasure. Please review the details below and provide your permission by signing at the bottom of this form. **Keep the top portion of the form for your reference of the meeting dates.** Return the bottom portion of this form to JFK.

Club Information:

- **Club Name:** Early Birds
- **Meeting Day:** Thursday
- **Dates: THURSDAY MORNINGS BEFORE SCHOOL - see reverse for dates**
- **Time:** 7:45 a.m. - 8:30 a.m.
- **Location:** JFK Library
- **Club Sponsor/Advisor:** Mrs. Silliman / Library Media Specialist
- **Contact Email:** ssiliman@windsorct.org

Transportation: All students will need to be dropped off for 7:45 a.m. on meeting days. I will meet the children **at 7:45 a.m.** in the front to let them in the building.

Parent/Guardian Permission:

I give permission for my child,_____, to participate in the Early Birds before-school program. I understand that it is my responsibility to arrange transportation from home for the meeting day and reinforce the importance of my child following 4 C's (Caring, Committed, Courageous, Creative) during club time.

Parent/Guardian Name (Printed): _____
Parent/Guardian Signature: _____
Emergency Contact Number: _____

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact **Mrs. Silliman at (860) 687 - 2060 x 5157 or ssilliman@windsorct.org.** Thank you for your support! We look forward to a great club experience.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Silliman

JFK Library Media Specialist

Earl Birds Meeting Dates:

October 2026: 8, 15, 22; November 2026; 5, 12, 19; December 2026: 3, 10, 17

January 2027: 7, 14, 21; February 2027: 4, 11, 18; March 2027: 4, 11, 18;

April 2027: 1, 8, 22; May 2027: 6, 13, 20; June 2027: 3 *Last Meeting*

JFK Cursive Handwriting Club



Do you want to learn the art of *Cursive Writing*?



Mrs. Mitchell is offering an after school club for students in Grades 4 & 5 that would like to learn Cursive Handwriting.

Students' handwriting must be legible and must have a recommendation from their classroom teacher.

Fill out the application, have your teacher sign it and write 2-3 sentences in your nearest printing on the back.

Wednesdays
Beginning October 14th
3:45 - 4:30
Parents must pick up JFK.

There will be 2 sessions limited to a maximum of 21 students per session.

Permission Slip - Cursive Handwriting Club

Name: _____

Classroom Teacher Recommendation (Signature): _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Students - please write 2-3 sentences in your neatest printing.

WEEKEND WHEELS STUDENT FOOD PROGRAM

This program provides qualifying Windsor children in grades **pre-k thru 12th grade** with a bag filled with food for the weekend. **Distributions are made from Sept. thru June in a weekly home delivery format.**

Eligibility for the program is based on household income. The table below shows a yearly gross income for each family size. If your household income is at or below the income listed for the number of people in your household, you are eligible to receive TEFAP commodities. (300% of poverty).

TEFAP PARTICIPATION INCOME GUIDELINES

BASED ON HOUSEHOLD SIZE FAMILY INCOME FALLS BELOW:

Household Size:	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8*
Annual Income:	$47,880	$64,920	$81,960	$99,000	$116,040	$133,080	$150,120	$167,160

For each additional person add $17,040.

Income guidelines reflects 300% of the federal poverty limit, last updated March 1, 2026

TWO WAYS TO REGISTER:

- Call or visit **Windsor Social Services** at 860-285-1839, LP Wilson Community Center to register.
- Contact the **Family Resource Coordinator at your child's school** for sign up.

2026/2027 School year distributions will begin on Thursday, Sept. 10th.

DON'T WAIT! REGISTER TODAY!

Weekend Wheels is a program of the Windsor Food and Fuel Bank



KIDS' ART CLASSES!

WINDSOR ART CENTER STUDIOS

A new art adventure every month!

Painting, drawing, collage, mixed media projects, and more for ages 6–10 and 11–16 (alternating!)

$20 per student, per class ✦ 35 Central St, Windsor CT

To view the full list of projects and register, visit windsorartcenter.org

PROJECT SANTA

Holiday Gift Assistance Program for Windsor Families

REGISTRATION OPEN – MONTH OF SEPTEMBER ONLY

Dear Windsor Parent or Guardian,

Windsor Social Services is here to help make the holiday season joyful for your children.
Qualifying families with children **ages 15 and under** can register for holiday gift assistance.

REGISTRATION HOURS

Month of September Only
Monday – Friday | 8:30 AM – 4:30 PM

LOCATION

Windsor Social Services
LP Wilson Community Center, 599 Matianuck Ave

1. HOUSEHOLD ANNUAL INCOME LIMITS

HOUSEHOLD SIZE	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8+
Max Income	$47,880	$64,920	$81,960	$99,000	$116,040	$133,080	$150,120	$167,160

2. REQUIRED REGISTRATION DOCUMENTS

- ✔ **Parent/Guardian Photo ID** (person registering).
- ✔ **Proof of Residency:** Recent utility bill mailed to your home address.
- ✔ **Child ID:** Social Security Card OR Birth Certificate for each child (15 & under).
- ✔ **Child Info:** Full name and birthdate for each child.
- ✔ **Proof of Income (Last 30 Days):** Pay stubs, child support, unemployment, or SSD.

⚠ REGISTRATION WILL NOT BE TAKEN UNLESS ALL DOCUMENTS ARE PROVIDED.

What Happens Next?

Upon approval, you'll receive a **Project Santa Family Packet**. Return the included Wish List by the deadline listed in your packet so donors can fulfill your requests!

Questions? Contact Windsor Social Services at **860-285-1839**

We look forward to helping make your family's holiday season special!

WINDSOR PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Follow us ON SOCIAL MEDIA!

@wpswindsor

Windsor Public Schools

Windsor PS App



Grade 3 Homework Calendar - October

Choose a minimum of three activities each week and check off the boxes as you complete them.

Note Independent reading can include a parent reading a bedtime story to your student. It is also recommended that you discuss with your child what they read or learned from their reading.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
STEM- Leaf Anatomy: Collect 3 fallen leaves, trace them, measure their length in inches or centimeters, and record vein patterns. Independent Reading (30 minutes)	**Writing- Story Starter:** Write a short story beginning with: "As the crisp autumn wind blew, a mysterious locked box appeared under the giant oak tree..." Independent Reading (30 minutes)	**Social Studies- Family History Interview:** Interview an adult or sibling about a favorite childhood tradition and record 3 key details from their memory. Independent Reading (30 minutes)	**STEM- Array Hunt:** Find 3 real-world arrays in your home (e.g., egg carton, window panes) and write multiplication equations. Independent Reading (30 minutes)	**Writing- Autumn Acrostic:** Write an autumn-themed acrostic poem using the letters in H-A-R-V-E-S-T featuring vivid sensory details.
Social Studies- Map Your Neighborhood: Draw a bird's-eye view map of your street or home layout. Include a compass rose (N, S, E, W) and a map key. Independent Reading (30 minutes)	**STEM- Shadow Tracking:** Place a small object outside at two different times of day. Trace its shadow with chalk and measure how the length changes over time. Independent Reading (30 minutes)	**Writing- Procedural Guide:** Write a step-by-step instructional guide titled "How to Prepare for a Cold Autumn Day" using numbered steps. Independent Reading (30 minutes)	**Social Studies- Local Heritage Search:** Research a Native American tribe indigenous to your state or region and write down 2 facts about their culture. Independent Reading (30 minutes)	**STEM- Measurement Dash:** Use a ruler to measure 5 items around your bedroom to the nearest half-inch or centimeter.
Writing- Perspective Writing: Write a journal entry from the point of view of a colorful leaf attached to a high tree branch on a windy day. Independent Reading (30 minutes)	**Social Studies- Community Helper Profile**: Choose a local community worker (e.g., police officer, firefighter, librarian, postal carrier) and write a short paragraph on how their job helps society. Independent Reading (30 minutes)	**STEM- Aerodynamic Test:** Construct 2 different paper airplane models, launch each 3 times, measure flight distances, and note which design creates better lift. Independent Reading (30 minutes)	**Writing- 10-Sentence Mystery:** Draft a complete mini-mystery story that is exactly five sentences long and includes an unexpected plot twist. Independent Reading (30 minutes)	**STEM- Receipt Estimation:** Choose 5 items on a store receipt and round each price to the nearest dollar to estimate the total.
STEM- Static Electricity Test: Rub a balloon against hair or wool for 20 seconds, then hover it over tissue paper cutouts to test how static electricity moves objects Independent Reading (30 minutes)	**Writing- Time Capsule Letter:** Write a letter to your future self detailing your current favorite hobbies, foods, and 3 personal goals for the coming year. Independent Reading (30 minutes)	**Social Studies-History of Autumn** Traditions: Read a brief background on the origins of Halloween or harvest festivals, then write down 2 ways these traditions have evolved over time Independent Reading (30 minutes)	**STEM- Seed Estimation & Math:** Scoop out pumpkin or sunflower seeds, estimate the total count, then group them into sets of 10s or 20s to calculate the exact sum efficiently. Independent Reading (30 minutes)	**STEM- Density Experiment**: Predict whether an apple slice, a pumpkin seed, and an acorn will float or sink in water. Test them and record your findings.

Grade 4 Homework Calendar - October

Choose a minimum of three activities each week and check off the boxes as you complete them.

NoteFor independent reading, it is recommended that you discuss with your child what they read or learned from their reading.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
STEM – Paper Bridge Challenge: Build a bridge using only paper and tape that spans at least 8 inches. Test how many coins it can hold. Make one improvement and test it again. Independent Reading (30 minutes)	**Writing – Spooky Story Starter:** Begin with: *"I knew something was different about the old house as soon as the door opened..."* Write a one-page story with a clear beginning, middle, and end. Independent Reading (30 minutes)	**STEM – Grocery Budget:** Imagine you have **$50** to buy snacks for a class celebration. Choose at least 4 items from a store ad or website. Find your total and calculate your change. Independent Reading (30 minutes)	**Social Studies –** Community Change: Find an old photograph of your town or neighborhood online or from a family member. Compare it with what the location looks like today and identify at least 3 changes. Independent Reading (30 minutes)	**STEM – Apple Oxidation Investigation:** Cut or use several apple slices. Leave one plain and treat the others with liquids such as lemon juice or water. Predict which will brown fastest, observe, and record the results.
STEM – Design a Dream Bedroom: Draw a rectangular bedroom. Add furniture, label dimensions, and calculate the room's area and perimeter. Independent Reading (30 minutes)	**Social Studies – Then & Now:** Ask an adult what school was like when they were your age. Record **3 similarities and 3 differences** between their school experience and yours. Independent Reading (30 minutes)	**STEM – Parachute Engineer:** Design a parachute for a small toy using household materials. Test it from the same height three times. Change one feature and determine whether your design improves. Independent Reading (30 minutes)	**Writing – Mystery Object:** Choose an everyday object but don't name it. Write a descriptive paragraph using precise details and clues. See if someone can identify it from your writing. Independent Reading (30 minutes)	**STEM – Data Detective:** Survey at least **5 people** with one question, such as favorite season, sport, or dessert. Create a bar graph of your results and write **2 observations** about the data.
Social Studies – Map a Journey: Choose a place in Connecticut you have visited or would like to visit. Create a simple map showing a route from your town. Include a title, compass rose, map key, and at least 3 landmarks. Independent Reading (30 minutes)	**Writing – Point of View Switch:** Write a short scene about a windy October day from the perspective of something that isn't human—a leaf, squirrel, pumpkin, tree, etc. Show what it sees, thinks, and feels. Independent Reading (30minutes)	**STEM – Estimation Investigation:** Choose **5 items** in your home. Estimate each item's length to the nearest inch or centimeter, then measure it. Find the difference between each estimate and actual measurement. Independent Reading (30minutes)	**STEM – Insulation Challenge:** Wrap ice cubes in different household materials such as foil, paper towel, fabric, or plastic. Predict which material will keep the ice from melting longest. Test and explain your results. Independent Reading (30minutes)	**Social Studies – Family Artifact:** Find an object, photograph, recipe, or keepsake connected to your family's past. Ask someone about it and write **4–5 sentences** explaining what it can teach you about your family's history.
STEM – Pumpkin Patch Planning: A pumpkin patch has **6 rows with 24 pumpkins in each row**. Find the total. Then create **two different ways** the same number of pumpkins could be arranged in equal rows. Independent Reading (30 minutes)	**Writing – October Opinion:** Which is the best way to spend a cool October afternoon? Write a paragraph stating your opinion and supporting it with **at least 3 reasons and examples**. Independent Reading (30minutes)	**STEM – Candy Structure Challenge:** Using toothpicks and a soft candy or another connector, build the tallest free-standing structure you can. Measure its height and sketch your design. Explain one change that could make it stronger. Independent Reading (30minutes)	**Social Studies – Local Government Detective:** Find out who leads your town or city government. Identify the person's title and research **2 responsibilities** of that position. Explain one way local government affects your daily life. Independent Reading (30minutes)	**STEM – Fall Recipe Math:** Find a recipe you like. Imagine you need to make **twice as much**. Write the new amount needed for at least 5 ingredients. Then explain how you calculated the new amounts.

Grade 5 Homework Calendar - October

Choose a minimum of three activities each week and check off the boxes as you complete them.

Note For independent reading it is recommended that you discuss with your child what they read or learned from their reading.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
STEM — Sound Scientist: Fill 3 glasses with different amounts of water. Gently tap each and compare the sounds. Record what you notice and explain how the amount of water affects the pitch. Independent Reading (30 minutes)	**Writing — Six-Word Stories:** Write **5 different stories using exactly six words each**. Choose your favorite and write a short paragraph explaining the larger story you imagine behind it. Independent Reading(30minutes)	**STEM — The $10 Challenge:** Find as many different combinations of coins and bills as you can that equal exactly **$10.00**. Record at least 5 combinations and explain how you know each is equivalent. Independent Reading (30 minutes)	**Social Studies — What's in a Name?:** Investigate the origin of the name of your town, a nearby town, street, school, or local landmark. Write what you discovered and one question you still have. Independent Reading (30 minutes)	**STEM — Mystery Material Hunt:** Find 6 objects made from different materials around your home. Classify each by properties such as flexible/rigid, magnetic/nonmagnetic, transparent/opaque, or conductor/insulator.
STEM — How Many Steps?: Estimate how many steps it takes to travel from one location in your home to another. Measure it, then use your results to estimate how many steps it would take to travel that route **10 times**. Independent Reading (30 minutes)	**Social Studies — Create a Time Capsule:** Choose **5 objects** you would put in a time capsule to teach someone 100 years from now about life in 2026. Draw or list them and explain why each belongs. Independent Reading (30minutes)	**STEM — Chain Reaction:** Create a chain reaction using at least **4 household objects**—for example, a ball rolls into a block that knocks something else over. Sketch and label each step of the energy transfer. Independent Reading (30 minutes)	**Writing — Ordinary to Extraordinary:** Choose a boring everyday event, such as brushing your teeth or waiting for the bus. Rewrite it as if it were the most dramatic event imaginable! Use strong verbs and vivid details. Independent Reading (30 minutes)	**STEM — Which Is the Better Deal?:** Find two different sizes of the same product in your home or online. Compare the quantity and price to determine which is the better value. Show the math that supports your conclusion.
Social Studies — Design a New State: Imagine a new state is being added to the United States. Create its name, capital, flag, major geographic features, and natural resources. Explain how geography might affect where people live. Independent Reading (30 minutes)	**Writing — Photojournalist:** Take or choose a photograph from your day. Write a **headline and short news-style article** describing what happened. Include who, what, when, where, why, and how. Independent Reading (30minutes)	**STEM — Number Target:** Using the numbers **2, 3, 5, 8, and 10**, create equations that get as close as possible to **100**. Try to find at least 3 different solutions using multiple operations. Independent Reading (30 minutes)	**Social Studies — A Day Without...:** Choose one community service—electricity, clean water, roads, trash collection, schools, etc. Create a timeline showing how your day would be affected if that service suddenly disappeared. Independent Reading (30 minutes)	**STEM — What's the Best Paper Airplane?:** Make **3 different paper airplane designs**. Fly each three times and measure the distances. Calculate the average distance for each design and determine which was most successful.
STEM— How Much Is a Million?: Choose a small everyday object such as a penny, paper clip, or LEGO. Estimate how much space **1 million** of them would take up. Use multiplication and reasonable estimates to support your thinking. Independent Reading (30 minutes)	**Writing — Interview a Character:** Choose a character from a book you're reading. Write **5 interview questions** for the character, then answer each question as if you were that character. Use evidence from the story to guide you. Independent Reading (30minutes)	**STEM — Slow the Fall:** Choose a piece of paper and see how slowly you can make it fall from shoulder height **without attaching anything to it**. Fold, cut, or reshape it. Test multiple designs and explain which worked best and why. Independent Reading (30 minutes)	**Social Studies — History in Your Pocket:** Examine a U.S. coin or bill. Investigate the people, places, words, dates, and symbols on it. Choose **3 features** and explain what each represents or why it is historically significant. Independent Reading (30 minutes)	**STEM — Create a Math Escape Challenge:** Create **3 connected math clues** for someone at home to solve. Each answer should lead to the next problem. Include multiplication, division, fractions, decimals, or multi-step problems.