

A Parent's Guide to 5H



**Calgary
Christian
School**

*The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his
glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full
of grace and truth.*

John 1:14, NIV

2019-2020

Calgary Christian Elementary School
Mrs. R. Homann

Dear 5H Parents,

My name is Rachel Homann and I am excited to be your child's Grade 5 teacher this year. I value parent-teacher communication highly and believe that a positive relationship between a child's parents and their teacher greatly impacts the child's learning. If you have questions for me or want to get in touch anytime throughout the year, my email is rachel.homann@pallisersd.ab.ca or my classroom phone number is (403) 242-2986 ext. 337. Again, I am so excited to begin this year together and see what God has in store for us!

In Christ,
Rachel Homann

School Day Times

The door opens and the first bell rings at 8:25. Students should enter the building at that time.

The second bell rings at 8:35, which is the start time for the day. Students should be in their desks, ready to start the day.

Recess times -

10:15 - 10:35 (Fridays 10:10 - 10:25)

12:35 - 12:55 lunch eating times (Fridays - 11:45 - 12:00)

12:55 - 1:25 outdoor recess time (Fridays - 12:00 - 12:20)

Children will be dismissed at 3:30 p.m. (Fridays at 1:45)

*Please note: The Palliser Board states that students may not be at school 15 minutes before start time, or stay longer than 15 minutes after school unless their parents/guardians are with them.

Communication

The best form of communication is through **emailing**. Each day we fill in the agenda with important information and upcoming events. It is expected that you take a look at the agenda each evening and **initial it**. Students will be rewarded for consistency with using agendas. *If you send an email during the day, please be aware it might not be addressed until after school.

If for some reason, you find that you are not receiving any emails from me, please let me know so I can check that I have the correct email address for you.

Homework

- All assignments and upcoming tests will be written in agendas
- Memory Work will be due at the end of each month
- Math homework
- Biweekly spelling words and practice
- Home Reading Program

Home Reading

- Students are encouraged to read for at least **20 minutes each day** (not including what is read at school).
- Please record student minutes on the **agenda calendar** which is located at the beginning of each month. Add the total minutes read at the end of the month and sign them. We will have a goal to reach 20 000 minutes as a class. When this is reached we will draw for a prize. We will need all students' reading minutes at the end of the month to draw the prize. Find a system that works well with you and your child for recording their minutes. One parent signature at the end of the month is all that is needed.

Volunteering

- For school-wide events, please refer to the **Sign-up Genius** on the school website.
- For class field trips, please indicate so on the field trip form you will receive.
- For classroom volunteering, an email will be sent with information when volunteers are needed.

For volunteering, please ensure that your police criminal record check (CRC) is up-to-date and on file at the school office. You may now apply for your CRC on-line. ALL volunteers must file for their CRC for the new school year, unless you completed this process in June. You may volunteer once you have filed and are still awaiting your clearance from the police. However, we will require documentation to show that you have applied for your CRC and are waiting for your official documents. Please contact the school office if you require information on the status of these documents as they pertain to you.

Scholastic Book Orders

Scholastic Book Orders will be distributed. The due dates will be marked in agendas.

Library Book Exchange

5H will visit the library on Wednesday mornings for book exchange. Students will be able to have two books out at one time. Books are on loan for one week. Books may be renewed, but must be brought back to the school library for this to happen.

Gym

Students will have PE three days a week (Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays) and it is taught by Mr. Heppner.

Safe and Caring School

In order to make C.C.S. a safe place for all of our students, please note we want a nut-free environment. As several students in our school have allergies, please ensure your child does not bring any nuts to school. Many thanks!

Snack & Recesses

Students have time for snack right before the first recess. Please send a snack that does not require a microwave. All students are expected to go outside for morning and afternoon recess. Students must bring appropriate outdoor clothing and be prepared for changes in weather.

Lunches & Microwave Use

The students will eat in the classroom each day. There is a microwave available for student use. We have 24 students in the class, so please limit the use of the microwave to the following schedule in order to eliminate long lines for the microwave:

Girls: Mondays and Thursdays

Boys: Tuesdays and Fridays

All students may use the microwave on Wednesdays.

Please be aware that lunch times are short so it would be helpful if the items brought don't need a long time in the microwave.

Hot Lunches

Check the school website if you'd like to sign up for hot dog lunches, pizza lunches or special lunches. If your child will be eating hot dogs and/or pizza on Wednesdays, all ordering must be done online.

Birthdays

Students love celebrating birthdays. If you would like to bring a snack to share with the class, please remember our "no nut" school policy. Please plan for 25 students in our class.

If your child is having a birthday party that does not include all of the boys and girls of the class, **please do not hand out the invitations at school** to ensure no child is left out. Please use e-mail or phone conversations. Class lists are available in the school directory. Thank you for your sensitivity in this area.

Grade Five Curriculum

An overview of the *Grade 5 Alberta Education curriculum* can be found at

<http://www.learnalberta.ca/content/mychildlearning/gradeataglance/grade5.pdf>

Field Trips

The following is a sampling of the off-site field trips tentatively planned for this year:

- Wetlands Field Trip
- Telus Science Centre
- Canmore
- Skiing at COP

Toys & Electronics

In order to avoid issues of loss, damage, and theft; and to ensure that students remain focused during class time we would ask that all toys, games, and **electronic devices (including smart/cell phones)** be kept at home. Students **will not** be permitted to play electronic video games at recess. Staff are not responsible for the loss of such items.

Reading Comprehension Questions

Having a deep understanding of texts we read is an important part of the reading program in grade five. Please use these questions to have discussions with your children when reading at home.

Remembering

- What is the setting in the story? How did you know?
- Can you recall a fact from the story?
- Name the main characters in the story. Are they good / bad?
- Who solved the problem in the story? What did they do?
- Can you list 3 main events in the story?

Understanding

- What was the story mainly about?
- Explain why the story has the title it was given.
- How did the main character feel at the beginning / end of the story?
- Describe the main character using 3 adjectives. Explain why you picked those adjectives.
- What is your opinion about how the character solved the problem?
- Who is your favorite character and why did you choose them?

Applying

- How are you like the main character in the story?
- Make a connection to the story. Is the connection: text - self / text - text / text - world?
- What unanswered questions do you have about the story?
- What did you learn from reading the story?
- Why did the author write this story?
- What is the genre of this story? How did you know?

Analyzing

- How are the characters alike and different?
- Which events could not have happened in real life and describe why?
- Which part of the story did you like the best? Why did you choose it?
- What was the theme of the story? Can you name another story with the same theme?
- What was the turning point in the story?
- How did the main character change during the story?

Evaluating

- Do you think the character solved the problem in a good / bad way?
- Why do you think the character did what they did?
- Was the character good / bad and explain your answer?
- Would you recommend this book? Why or why not?
- Which character would you most like to be friends with and why?
- What would happen if you took out a key event in the story?

Creating

- What is an alternate ending for this story?
- How would the story change if you took out a key event in the story?
- What changes would you have made to this story and explain why?
- If you were the main character, what would you have done differently?
- What would be a better title for this story? Why did you choose it?