

Miss Garcia's Class Newsletter

Week of April 15th, 2024

1. Wednesday, April 17th Early Release

This Wednesday, April 10th is an **early release day**. Students will have a **1:00 pm dismissal**. This Wednesday we will have **Day 2 specials**. Click [here](#) to see the six-day schedule for the entire school year.

2. State Testing This Week

Our final two days of state testing are this week:

April 16th - AASA reading/math part 1

April 18th - AASA reading/math part 2

On Tuesday and Thursday, we will be testing most of the day. Please avoid pulling out your fifth grader on these days. If a student starts a testing session and then is pulled out of school, they are not permitted to resume their test when they return.

3. Snacks, Books, and Earbuds

Students should bring the following on testing days:

- Snacks (please no candy, gum, or nuts)
- Books to read after they are finished with a test
- Earbuds or headphones *(no Bluetooth)

4. No School Friday (4/19)

To celebrate the end of state testing, there will be no school on Friday, April 19th. School resumes the following Monday, April 22nd.

5. Genius Hour Project Next Steps:

Last week, your fifth grader should have brought home a packet with guidelines about "using your own words" in their Genius Hour presentation. Please review the display guidelines and grading checklist with your fifth grader. Afterwards, please sign the signature page labeled "Return by 4/17" and return it to school this week.

This Wednesday, April 17th we will be answering the question: "How much information should I put on my display?"

Reminder: Genius Hour projects are due Tuesday, May 14th. They will be on display in the cafeteria during our 5th Grade Genius Night 5:30 - 6:30 on May 14th.

6. Closing the Class Website

This summer, the class website will be discontinued and replaced by Canvas. For the remainder of the school year, I will be transferring features of the class website to Canvas.

As of Monday, April 15th all posted assignments will be posted on Canvas only. In Canvas, assignments will be posted in one of the five classes: Math, Language Arts, Social Studies, Technology, and Science.

All assignments posted **before April 15th** will still be available on the class website until the end of the school year. Any assignments posted on **April 15th or later** will only be posted on Canvas.

Your fifth grader has already accessed several assignments via Canvas at school and should be familiar with the process. If they are having problems accessing assignments at home through Canvas, please let me know.

7. Canvas Student App



The best way to view posted assignments in Canvas is through the Student App (available on both the android and IOS app stores - it's the one with the red icon). You can log in to the Student App using your fifth grader's school computer username and password. Once logged in, you'll be able to view all posted assignments in the same format that your fifth grader does.

8. Typed Assignments

After trying out submitting typed assignments and file uploads via Canvas, I'm going to move back to having fifth graders use only StudentVue (the gradebook app) to submit these types of assignments. I think this will simplify the process and make it easier for students and families to view submitted assignments.

9. Viewing Grades

In addition, after experimenting with grading assignments in Canvas and exporting them to ParentVue - I am switching back to entering grades directly into ParentVue. This will mean it will be fewer steps for parents to view comments, rubrics, and missing assignments - grades will all be in ParentVue. This will start Monday, April 15th.

To avoid confusion, please use ParentVue as the single source for viewing grades and checking for missing assignments.

10. "What's Due Tomorrow"

Until I figure out how to post an easily accessible version of "What's Due Tomorrow" on Canvas, I will still be continuing to post a list of each day's assignments on the class website.



Baby Armando wishes everyone a wonderful short week!

Thank you for reading this week's newsletter!

Helpful Links!:

- Parent Square - I will be using Parent Square to send out most of my communications. If you do not have Parent Square, [click here to get registered](#). Note: to register, you must use the email address or phone number you provided to the school as part of your contact information.
- Class website! - You can find our class website by clicking [here](#) or at <http://bit.ly/garciafifth>
- Logging into ParentVue allows you to check your child's grades 24/7. Here's the link to ParentVue:
<https://www.peoriaunified.org/Page/209>
- Email is the best way to reach me. My address is augarcia@pusd11.net

