

4th and 5th Grade Patriotic Program Student Information Sheet

Welcome to the 2012 4th and 5th Grade Patriotic Program! Our theme this year is, “The Grand Old Flag.” You have 9 weeks to memorize and recite all the items in your packet. **Recitations begin on January 9, 2012 and end on March 9, 2012** (We do not plan to listen to reciting during the MSA testing). You become an official *Patriotic Program Superstar* when you have memorized and recited all the items in your packet! *You can do it!*

HERE ARE THE THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW AND REMEMBER...

1. **Because there were some accusations last year of possible unfairness... you cannot recite to your own parent at school for credit, *unless* it is the last day of recitations and there is *no one else available*.**

2. **You may recite to parent volunteers one of three times during the day between January 9th and March 9th (recitations at home do not count for credit, only practice):**
 - A. In the morning before announcements (9:05 am – 9:20 am) outside of the Library doors;
 - B. In the afternoon before dismissal (3:30 pm – 3:45 pm) outside of the Library doors;
 - C. On *SOME* days at lunchtime (we have a hard time getting parent volunteers at lunch because of younger siblings and jobs, so we cannot do this often– Sorry!)

3. **You may recite to either Mrs. Felts or Mrs. Whittaker at *any* time your teacher allows you to do so and at least one of Mrs. Felts or Mrs. Whittaker is in.** Also, if you are on a I.E.P. or 504 plan, have special accommodations for testing and assessments and want to use those special accommodations, please see Mrs. Felts or Mrs. Whittaker to recite - *NOT* the parent volunteers. For privacy reasons, the parent volunteers do not know who has these special needs and therefore cannot accommodate you if you want to be accommodated.

4. **Please bring your Patriotic Program checklist with you each time that you recite to a parent volunteer so that the parent can mark your packet and initial where you successfully completed an item.** You may take a piece of candy and a star sticker to place on the class chart if you *correctly* recite an item. It should go without saying, but do not mark your own folder, even if you completed the item - have a parent volunteer mark it, so no one can even accuse you of cheating!

(Please see other side)

5. **Please ask your parents to help you memorize.** Last year, I discovered something really important in the Patriotic Program... children who worked with their parents to learn these things were MUCH more likely to finish successfully *and* had a LOT more fun! Or, if you are having trouble with any of the stuff, please don't be shy to ask your teachers or ME for help memorizing these items. Also, if a parent volunteer is not busy listening to other students during the reciting times, he or she will gladly practice memorizing and reciting the passages with you. Just ask !!

6. **Please do not disturb a student who is reciting to a parent volunteer, talk loudly in line, or "butt" in line!** It is very distracting, and therefore very discourteous and disrespectful to others when you do this.

7. The 4th Graders have 7 items and the 5th Graders have 12 items to memorize and recite. **Please don't wait until the last minute to recite the items in your packet!! Lines get REALLY, REALLY long during the last few weeks, and you may run out of time and not have a chance to get a turn.** It's VERY important to set a goal to recite 1-2 items each week over the 9-week period. While it's true that there have been extensions in the past for bad weather and other problems which arose, DO NOT count on any extensions being granted. DON'T DELAY, RECITE TODAY!

8. **The first student to become a Patriotic Program Superstar in each homeroom class will be given a special "First to Finish" prize!** If two or more of you in the same homeroom finish "first" in the same morning, you will EACH receive a prize, so please don't worry about who is in line first.

9. **Patriotic Program Superstars will be able to:**
 - A. Participate in a fun Awards Assembly with prizes for the Patriotic Program Superstars
 - B. March or ride on the float to represent your school in the Kingsville 4th of July 2012 Parade (We won a trophy place last year in our division, and it was FUN!!)
 - C. 5th Grade Patriotic Program Superstars get an All-Day Field Trip in May or June!

You and/or your parents may call me with questions any evening before 9:00 pm, at (410) 817-9305, or send me an email at: lisaeisemann@yahoo.com

BEST WISHES AND...DON'T DELAY, RECITE TODAY!!!