



Fifth Grade Parent Newsletter #3

This week we are reading “Island of the Blue Dolphins” by Scott O’Dell. We will focus on some vocabulary words in this story. It would be helpful if you will reinforce the meaning of these words at home with your child. Also, on this newsletter you will find our spelling words for the week. Please practice these words at home as well. The words in italics are our challenge spelling words.

Our comprehension focus this week will be on identifying the theme and setting of the story and visualizing the events in the story while we read. Our grammar focus will be identifying dependent and independent clauses in sentences.

Let’s have a great week!

Spelling Words: coast, feast, speech, wheat, Spain, paint, arrow, needle, charcoal, praise, faint, maintain, crease, groan, breeze, willow, appeal, bowling, complain, sneeze, *dungarees*, *bungalow*, *campaign*, *speedometer*, *referee*

Vocabulary Word	Meaning
gnawed	bitten at or worn away
headland	a narrow ridge of high land jutting out into the water
kelp	any of various large, tough, brown seaweeds
lair	den or resting place of a wild animal
ravine	a long, deep, narrow, valley eroded by running water
shellfish	a water animal with a shell
sinew	tendon