

5A News
September IB Theme: **CARING**

Dear 5A Families,

This week will be a full one! It was great to see many of you last week at Curriculum Night and our Camp Seymour meeting. We'll be reaching out to those of you who volunteered as chaperones later this week. Thank you! More details about camp and a packing list will be sent out next week. *This Friday is a **Free Dress Friday**.*

MAP Testing

This morning, the last fall MAP test for 5th grade will be administered. We'll be completing any make-up testing that is needed over the next week. We've been impressed with how focused the students have been during testing and their stamina in working through the testing sessions. We look forward to having this additional data about our students and will be sharing it out with you, once we've had a chance to review and analyze our MAP testing results.

St. Luke-a-thon

The big day is almost here! We're putting the finishing touches on our theme t-shirts, and students should come in red, white, and blue attire to wear with them on Wednesday! They also need to bring a water bottle. **Thank you** for sending in addresses. Students did a great job with their letter writing. We appreciate your support! When it comes time to gathering pledge payments, please spread the word that they can be made [online](#).

Math

We'll be working hard this week to wrap up **Chapter 1: Place Value**. Our lessons will focus on understanding place value by comparing decimals, ordering whole numbers & decimals, & using a four-step plan to problem-solve. We're planning to administer our **Chapter 1 Test on Friday of this week!** A study guide will come home later this week for homework. Students should also be completing at least 45 minutes of ALEKS practice at home each week.

ELA

In addition to writing our St. Luke-a-thon letters, students have been doing some journaling with prompts and reading articles connected to our IB unit. We'll be reviewing the skills needed to effectively read for information.

Students are expected to read at least 25 minutes each evening and should have a silent reading book in their desk at school at all times! We don't have designated silent reading time every day, but reading is often either a choice or what students are asked to do after finishing a test or another assignment. If they need to select a book from our classroom library, they are welcome to do that during snack time, or at the beginning or end of the day!

IB Unit - Organic Matter Cycles Through Our Living World in Systems of Interdependent Parts

We're continuing our inquiry into this big topic through explorations of **decomposition** and the role it plays in the Web of Life. Last week, we watched a couple of videos introducing the concept of decomposition, learning about fungi on the forest floor. Students will be making

observations this week about some food items decomposing and the conditions that affect the rate of decomposition. Next, we'll make a tie-in to our Learning Garden with an exploration of worm composting. Meanwhile, we are also conducting an experiment this week that will help us better understand what plants eat!

In **Religion**, we continue learning about Worshiping God & Stewardship. We've begun talking about the Catholic Social Teaching, "Care for Creation" and how we can put our September IB theme into action and answer, from the perspective of people of faith, one of the guiding questions for our IB unit: *What is our responsibility in the ecosystem that we are a part of?*

Our **Second Step** lesson for the week will focus on *Being Assertive*. The students will complete an in-class activity on Tuesday. There will be a HomeLink worksheet to complete with an adult at home and turn in by Friday.

Essential Agreements and School Policies

In class, we've been reviewing our Essential Agreements and how we can live them out. This week, we will also be diving into policies in our Student Handbook and particularly ensuring that students understand our Policy of Respect, are able to make meaning of it, and are prepared to transfer that learning through their actions in all St. Luke situations!

5A Essential Agreements

Respect others and their things.

Respect our learning environment.

Do my own best work.

Take responsibility for my words, actions, and learning.

Put God first!

Important Dates THIS week:

- **Wednesday – St. Luke-a-thon @ 10:50 am – 11:20 am** - bring a water bottle; wear red, white and blue!
- **Friday** – Free Dress Friday, Chapter 1 Math Test Second Step, Scout Carnival

Upcoming Important Dates:

- 10/1 (Monday) – Robotics Team Begins
- 10/4 (Thursday) – Blessing of the Pets
- 10/6 – 10/7 (Saturday – Sunday) – Bake Sale
- 10/6 (Saturday) – Chili Cook-Off
- 10/12 (Friday) – No School (Teacher Inservice)
- 10/13 (Saturday) – Robotics League Event @ Seattle Prep
- 10/16 (Tuesday) – Mental Health Presentation for Parents
- 10/16 (Tuesday) – Mental Health Assemblies for Students
- 10/17 (Wednesday) – Photo Retakes
- 10/18 (Thursday) – Feast of St. Luke
- 10/19 (Friday) – Staff Auction Party
- **10/23 – 10/26 (Tuesday – Friday) – 5th grade Camp Seymour**
- 10/27 (Saturday) – Bingo Bash!