

Dear 5A Families,

Thanks to our field trip chaperones who made last week's **NOAA** trip possible. Our tour was packed with information. As we were reflecting afterwards, it was a bit hard for the class to know where to start. Hopefully they came home and shared some of the highlights and were able to reflect on how the NOAA scientists use their knowledge and skills to make meaning of ecological data, weather patterns, and other research, to make a positive impact on the sustainability of our region.

Please support our St. Vincent de Paul **Food Drive & Warm Clothing Drive!**

Items that are most needed include:

- Soup
- Canned Protein (chicken, ham, tuna)
- Canned Meals (ravioli, etc.)
- Crackers
- Cereal (hot and cold)
- Spaghetti Sauce
- Peanut Butter
- Jelly/Jam

The annual fall **Scholastic Book Fair** starts this week and will be open during conferences!

**ELA** - Students are reading a mini-novel about three families trying to survive on an island. They are making connections to our Web of Life IB unit and developing vocabulary and comprehension skills.

They are also reading a non-fiction text about tropical rain forests. Last week, in small groups, they read about either primary consumers, secondary consumers, or decomposers. In their groups, they created a poster and shared a summary of their reading with the class.

This week, we will also be working with nouns – singular, plural, and possessive.

Students should be reading at least 25 minutes each evening and should be keeping in mind that they need to earn **at least 15 Accelerated Reader points** per trimester, based on quizzes on eligible books that they have read. Most AR-related questions are best directed to Mrs. Feucht, who administers the program.

### **IB Unit – Organic Matter Cycles Through Our Living World in Systems of Interdependent Parts**

We're wrapping up this unit this week with a slightly revised culminating project. We decided to give the students a little more choice in their topic, and they each selected an endangered animal to research. They had specific questions about that animal, including describing its habitat, understanding and explaining why it is endangered, and proposing what can be done about it. They've been working in class, so we can answer questions and see where they might need more guidance.

Mid-week this week, we will introduce our new unit. The Central Idea for this unit is: **Culture, Trade and Geography Played a Part in the Formation of the 13 Colonies.** The Transdisciplinary Theme for this unit is: "Where We Are in Time and Place." Part of this unit will be a simulation learning activity, in which the students take on the role of early colonists, encountering many of the joys and hardships of this period of our nation's history.

Our Chapter 3 **Math** Test will be on Friday, as we wrap up this division unit, and then we will move into a short unit on dividing with 2-digit divisors before beginning our work with decimals.

**Religion** – We’re beginning Chapter 4: **The Mystery of God**. In this unit, we will be exploring how God is more than can be known and the mystery beyond words. We will be learning about the Trinity, about the baptism of Jesus, and about St. Patrick. We’ll explore how we are all created in the Image of God and will delve into the meaning of the Apostles’ Creed. Finally, we’ll take time to reflect on how we respond to God’s love by putting the virtues of faith, hope, and love into action in our lives.

We’ve completed our first unit in **Second Step** and will be reviewing during this week and the last week of November. In December, we will start our **Bullying Prevention** unit before moving to the second Second Step unit.

**Congratulations!**

Students were invited to participate in a Design-a-Bag competition for North City Water District, with a water conservation theme. Amanda’s design won the grand prize!

**Upcoming Important Dates:**

- Nov. 13th – 21st – Book Fair
- Nov. 19th – Nov. 30th – Food Drive and Warm Clothing Drive
- Nov. 19th – 21st – Conferences
- Nov. 22nd – 25th – THANKSGIVING Break
- Dec. 2nd – First Sunday of ADVENT