

Dear 5A Families,

A few quick reminders:

- **Christmas Pageant:** December 19th @ 6:30 pm (Please arrive between 6:00 and 6:15 pm and drop your child off in the classroom!)
- 5th Grade Pageant **Costumes:** white shirts, dark pants (not jeans) OR white dresses
- Please order **SCRIP** to support our school!
- **Green Take-Home Work Folders** will be coming home on Wednesday. Please send them back with your child by Friday. Also, if you still have your child's **report card envelope**, please sign and return it this week. Thank you!

Religion – The class will continue reading and reflecting on the **Advent** Sunday readings and celebrating this holy season at school. Last week, we learned about the story of **Our Lady of Guadalupe** appearing to Juan Diego to ask that a church be built in her honor on Tepeyac Hill in Mexico. After reflecting on the meaning of this story and Juan Diego's response, the students wrote about what the story had to teach them and how they will transfer that learning to their lives. We celebrated Mass with our St. Luke community for the feast day.

This week, in our **Second Step Bullying Prevention** unit, we will focus on “Bystander Power.” This supports the work we are doing at school to help students feel empowered and prepared to be helpful bystanders when they encounter unkind or bullying behaviors.

Culture, Trade and Geography Played a Part in the Formation of the 13 Colonies is the Central Idea of our second IB unit. After our review of map skills, students created a map of an imaginary country, and we began our inquiry into how geography impacted the establishment of the early colonies. This week, students will be working in groups to plan and stock their ships for our simulation voyage as settlers to the New World. We'll continue this journey after Christmas break. The students will also begin a research project in the library, focusing on a specific colony, when we return.

Math – We completed our unit on division with two-digit divisors last week. Tests will be coming home on Wednesday. The class as a whole did really well. This was a test on which taking as much time as needed, re-reading the questions and checking for accuracy really paid off, as we're getting into more complex, multi-step problems. We'll be doing some pre-assessments and review work this week, in preparation for diving into adding and subtracting decimals and problem solving with decimals in January.

ELA – Everyone has been doing a great job with persuasive paragraph writing this month, and their revising and editing skills are growing as they work independently and with a buddy. This week, we will continue working with verbs and will be using what we learn in our paragraph writing. We're focusing on irregular and helping verbs.

Students should be **reading** at least 25 minutes each evening. The **Trimester II AR** goal is also 15 points. They have been encouraged to read or begin reading a book that interests them at their Lexile level over break, in preparation for our first **Book Project** in January (due at the end of the month). We'll talk about the expectations for this in class this week.

Have a wonderful week and a blessed celebration of Christmas!

Upcoming Important Dates:

- 12/19 – Christmas Program – ALL SCHOOL 6:30 pm
- 12/21 – Last Advent Prayer Service, House Caroling Competition, **Noon Dismissal**