

Dear 5A Families,

It has been a joy to observe how welcoming and gracious the 5th graders have been to Lucy and Steve. They seem to be adjusting well and are great additions to our class!

A few notes and reminders...

- St. Luke's will be having a Grandparents' Brunch on Wednesday, January 30th after our all-school Mass at 9:30. Please extend the invitation to your child's grandparents/special friend.
- Remember SCRIP when you are planning for grocery shopping/gas purchases and special events. This is a habit that can really benefit our school!
- Thanks for helping your child to be rested and ready for **MAP** testing this week.
- We'll be having a 5th grade **Free Dress** this Friday!

In **Religion**, students will continue their study of the sacraments. We will take a break from our **Second Step Bullying Prevention** unit, due to MAP testing.

In our **Culture, Trade and Geography Played a Part in the Formation of the 13 Colonies** IB unit, the class will be continuing with our simulation. All three groups have landed and used what they have learned about geography to choose the land on which their colony will settle. They are making decisions about how to govern and work for food and will begin having opportunities to trade for necessary supplies and expand their land holdings this week. As the simulation progresses, students are reflecting and journaling on their experience. In **ELA**, the class is reading "Pedro's Journal," historical fiction written in the style of journal entries. We've been exploring the impact the narrator's perspective has on a story and students will be using this text to guide them in writing compelling historical fiction journal entries of their own. Students will also be writing about one of our key concepts, **change**, and how it is perceived and experienced in their own lives.

We have some of our persuasive writing from December posted in the hallway; it will come home soon. I proudly shared with the class that another staff member had come by to tell me how impressive the 5th graders' writing is! They have been working hard, and it shows.

Math – We are **adding decimals** this week – hands-on with base ten blocks, using models, using the standard algorithm, and through use of the commutative, associative, and identity properties of addition. Students who would benefit from a structured opportunity to complete the weekly online ALEKS practice are invited to come to 5B on Tuesdays through March at 7:30 am; thank you, Ms. Bakamis, for hosting this!

Upcoming Important Dates:

- 1/18/19 – Geography Bee 8:45 am – Nathaniel will represent our class! Also, Free Dress for 5th grade
- 1/21/19 – Martin Luther King Jr. Day – No School
- 1/25/19 – Mid-trimester Progress Reports go home, Father-Daughter Dance
- 1/26/19 – Parents Club Meeting
- 1/27/19 – Open House after 9:00AM Mass – Kickoff For Catholic Schools Week
- 1/28/19 – Open House during school day
- 1/29/19 – Parent Appreciation Day
- 1/30/19 – Community Appreciation Day
- 1/31/19 – Student Appreciation Day
- 2/1/19 – Free Dress, & International Festival