5A News – February 19, 2019

February IB Theme: ***OPEN-MINDED***

Dear 5A Families,

Please also see the attached letter that explains our new IB unit in more depth and introduces the summative assessment that students will be working on primarily at home during this unit. Your student will bring home a hard copy as well.

Additionally, your child will be bringing home a letter explaining our new **Math** class placements. We took a pre-test on multiplying and dividing decimals today and will begin instruction in this unit tomorrow.

Congratulations to all of last week’s **Global Reading Challenge** participants from 5A: Allie, Clara, Elijah, Ezra, Kayli, Nathaniel, and Owen! All of them performed very well. The team that earned the top score, and will move to the next round, includes Allie, Nathaniel, and Owen, as well as Sydney (5B), and Dominic and Siena (4th graders).

The fifth graders will be leading this month’s all-school **Mass** at 9:30 on Friday morning; please feel free to join us! They will be preparing this week.

This week’s **Second Step** topics are Emotion Management and Calming Down. Students will be bringing home two Home Links. **Lesson 9: Emotion Management** will come home today and will be **due on Friday**; Lesson 10: Calming Down will come home Wednesday and be due next Tuesday.

We are wrapping up our **Culture, Trade and Geography Played a Part in the Formation of the 13 Colonies IB unit**. Studentswill be sharing their colony projects in the library. In the classroom, we are in the final stage of our colonial simulation. Students have a reflection to write tonight related to the simulation. We will have one more summative reflection on the whole experience and how what they have learned about these colonies informs their understanding of our countries values, organization, government, and more.

Next, we’ll be switching gears to our next science-focused IB unit: **Water is essential to life and is a limited resource for many people.** This unit includes several hands-on investigations, and our Key Concepts are **change** and **responsibility,** along with the

Related Concepts of **conservation** and **distribution**.Our Lines of Inquiry include:

* Sources of water and how water is used
* What happens to water after we use it
* Distribution and availability of usable water
* Responsibility regarding water

During this time, students will be exploring a current water-related issue that interests them, learning why it matters, and presenting to the class at the end of our unit (see letter).

**ELA**– Due to snow days, we will be wrapping up our reading for this unit, with a test on Pedro’s Journal, and finishing reading Ann Hutchison’s Way, this week.

We will also be completing our pre-assessments this week as we head into **Words Their Way** for **Spelling** during the second half of the year, to help us determine the correct instructional level for each student.

**A few notes and reminders…**

* **Remember the Magazine Sale!**
* **Support SCRIP**
* **Please complete the Online Perception Survey for the school**

**Upcoming Important Dates:**

* Wednesday, February 20th - Tomorrow – Vision/Hearing Tests
* Thursday, February 21st – School Spelling Bee (8:45 am)
* Thursday, February 21st – FREE DRESS (moved from Friday, due to Mass)
* Thursday – Saturday, Feb. 21st – 23rd – ANNIE (the school musical) @ St. Luke School
* Friday, Feb. 22nd **– All-School Mass – led by 5th grade**
* Tuesday, Feb. 26th – Roller Skating Party
* Monday, Feb. 25th – State of the School (**New Date**)
* Wednesday, March 6th – Ash Wednesday
* Friday, March 15th – NO School for students – Staff In-service on Social-Emotional learning
* Friday, March 22nd – Report Cards