

5A News – March 11, 2019
March IB Theme: **RISK-TAKER**

Dear 5A Families,

Our first spring **Learning Garden** class is this Tuesday. Students should come prepared to stay warm and dry, including garden-appropriate boots or shoes. We're excited to work with our new garden educator, Emily Wilkins. Last week, the class learned about some underwater gardens; be sure to ask your 5th grader about that!

Thank you for your support of the Lenten Food Drive over the past two weeks! I know that your generosity will make a big impact for families in our local community.

In **Religion**, the class will be learning about the Cardinal Virtues and continuing deepening their understanding of the season of Lent. We are also continuing to review for the upcoming ACRE religion test next month. Please feel free to join us for our weekly school-wide Lenten Mass on Wednesday at 2:15 pm.

This week's **Second Step** topic is *Handling Put-downs*. The Home Link (Lesson 14) will be due on Thursday. We'll be focusing on avoiding making put-down comments, how they impact friendships and the class culture, and on handling put-downs as the target and a bystander.

ELA/IB – The class really did thoughtful work on their water projects, making meaning of our **“Water is essential to life and is a limited resource for many people”** IB Central Idea and beginning to transfer that learning to a real-world water issue. They picked some intriguing topics. We're looking forward to sharing them in class this week. We are continuing to read about water issues and to work on eliminating “banned words” in favor of more exciting, descriptive, and specific word choices.

We really enjoyed last week's book project presentations! A new book project will be assigned next week.

Our **Science Mystery** for this week focuses on saving a town from a hurricane. Students are working in groups to use planning, engineering, and budgeting skills to save the town's historic buildings. They need to take on the roles of environmental, levee, structural, and seawall engineers and apply the most effective and cost-efficient strategies.

Math – Both classes are continuing to work with **multiplication and division of decimals** this week. We are close to wrapping up this unit, so you will be seeing study guides coming home shortly.

Congratulations to all of our **Math Olympiad** participants who did so well on Saturday. We are really proud of them. Thanks also to Nicole Fortune for coordinating the math team!

Upcoming Important Dates:

- Thursday, March 14th – End of Winter Trimester
- Friday, March 15th – NO School for students – Staff In-service (MAP Data Day)
- Friday, March 22nd – Report Cards
- Tuesday, March 26th – Open House