

5A News – April 8, 2019
April IB Theme: **Reflective**

Dear 5A Families,

Just a short note this week, as we will be seeing you at [conferences](#)!

We're looking forward to tomorrow's field trip to see "**The Diary of Anne Frank**." The fifth graders prepped for this show today, and we will do some follow-up reflection back at school, as well as making connections with our IB unit concepts and IB attributes. Thanks to all of you who generously agreed to drive. Students should come **in uniform and bring a simple snack** that can be eaten on the way.

The fifth graders led this morning's **school-wide prayer service** and decorated one of the pillars in the auditorium with their reflections about Mercy. We really appreciate the wonderful leadership they are showing and their enthusiastic willingness to take on new roles and challenges. Besides that, they sing beautifully!

We will have another **Lenten Mass** this Wednesday at 2:15. You are always willing to join us! For these Masses, our students are picking up and sitting with the first graders. They are doing a terrific job as role models and helpers.

You may have heard about your child's reading group book. They are learning about the **American Revolution through historical fiction**. We've also been viewing and discussing a video series that addresses the key events leading up to the Revolution. Our summative assessment for this IB unit is to have the students write their own declaration, modeled after the **Declaration of Independence**, addressing an issue in their own life. This week, we are starting to learn about the reasons for the Declaration of Independence, the process of creating it, and the parts that make up the document.

We're noticing in math that we are getting into some content that really requires students to persevere and stretch their thinking skills, especially in some of the **problem solving skills**, like Guess, Check, Revise, in which there is no clear step-by-step direction. We're continuing to remind students that it's important to carefully read the problem and double check what is being asked!

We've done a little work with verbs last week and are becoming proficient at identifying and using **helping verbs** along with a main verb, such as: She was swimming in the lake this afternoon. We are continuing to practice writing "on-demand" **paragraphs**.

When you come for conferences, be sure to have your child show you the [hydroponic tower garden](#)!

Finally, remember that the [auction](#) is just around the corner.

Donna