

September 16th, 2019

Holy Spirit, call us to ACTION!

“The best and most beautiful things in the world cannot be seen or even touched - they must be felt with the heart.” - Helen Keller

This week is packed with exciting learning activities! Here’s where we’re headed this week in the classroom:

In **Science** we will begin our first unit on how organic matter cycles through our living world in systems of interdependent parts. Many of our lessons will focus on ecology and will help the students develop the idea that plants, animals, and fungi form a system of interdependent parts, with each part dependent on the other parts for its material nourishment. As we prepare for our Outdoor Environmental Education Experience at Camp Seymour we will be organizing our cabin & learning groups. ***Please let me know if you are interested in chaperoning or driving. We need more parents to volunteer ASAP!!!***

In **Religion** this week we will begin our first unit on God, Our Creator and Father. This unit focuses on creation and emphasizes that God the Father created us and continues to care for us and call us to live in God’s kingdom. This is from our new religion books, *Finding God: Our Response to God’s Gifts!* We are very excited to be using these texts to guide our faith, actions, and how we change our community for the better. We will also be learning about ways we are called to action and we will decide on a service project that we can experience in our own community. ***Our school service project is Hero’s Cafe! We will be partnering up with the Kindergarteners to help celebrate these veterans in our local community.***

This week we will begin our **Second Step** lessons which focuses on Listening with Attention. Each student will participate in an interactive lesson during class and will practice this skill with a parent/guardian for homework. These worksheets are due on Friday, September 20th.

In **Math**, we will continue to evaluate the skills of the students with a few more assessments. One of the first assignments the students will complete this in their electronic Math program (ALEKs) is a Knowledge Check. This will help guide the student to practice specific skills that they need to work on at their own level. I have aligned this program with our Math textbook, but when they achieve 85% or higher on all of the overall 5th grade topics. I will move them into a

more advanced section of the ALEKs program. *This week students will be expected to complete AT LEAST 45 minutes of ALEKs by Monday, September 23rd.*

his week in **Reading & Language Arts**, we will continue assessing their spelling skills, grammar conventions, & reading strategies. We will review our letter writing skills as we complete writing writing our St. Luke-a-thon fundraising letters. We will also finish writing creative stories about our superheroes and their alter egos. This writing piece will be accompanied by student created artwork & real-life photos of the students. We will also be assessing our spelling skills and students will be given a Spelling List later in the week. As a nightly practice, the students will be expected to complete at LEAST 25 minutes of reading.

Important Dates THIS week:

- **Monday** – Design, Spanish, Library
- **Tuesday** – Music, Garden Class (wear appropriate shoes & coats), 2pm Dismissal
- **Wednesday** – PE (don't forget your PE shoes!), Hydroponic Garden Set-up, Spanish, **Camp Seymour Meeting @ 6:00 pm, PYP Academic Night@ 6:30 pm**
- **Thursday** – Music, Library (don't forget to bring books to return/renew)
- **Friday** – PE (don't forget your PE shoes!)

Upcoming Important Dates:

- **Monday - Friday, September 23rd- October 11th – MAP TESTING WINDOW**
 - **5th Grade will be testing: September 23rd, 24th, & 25th @ 12:30 pm (Please send your student to school with an additional snack & make sure they get lots of rest)**
- **Thursday, September 26th – St. Luke-A-Thon, Students will wear red, orange, or yellow shirts**
- **Friday, September 27th - Free Dress**