

December 16th, 2019

Holy Spirit, call us to ACTION

IB Attribute of the Month: Knowledgeable

“Let us tenderly and kindly cherish, therefore, the means of knowledge. Let us dare to read, think, speak, and write.” - John Adams

“Knowledge is love and light and vision.” - Helen Keller

Our classes are filled with exciting learning activities! Here’s where we’re headed this week in the classroom:

In **Math**, in Mrs. Dimock’s class we will be finishing their work with fractions. Students will take a test on operations involving fractions when we return from break. Ms. Bakamis’s class will review our studies of Chapter 4: Dividing by a Two-Digit Divisor. ***We will have our Chapter 4 Test on Tuesday!*** Mr. Grahek’s class we will continue their lessons in Chapter 3: Dividing by a One-Digit Divisor. Please make sure to check the Homework Website nightly to see what your student is expected to be working on. Every 5th grade student is expected to complete at LEAST 45 minutes of ALEKs per week. When they achieve 95% 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 the students are expected to complete AT LEAST 45 minutes of ALEKs by Monday, January 6th (Total Time: 9 hours & 30 minutes).***

This week in **Reading & Language Arts**, we will continue working on grammar conventions, & reading strategies. Throughout the week in Language Arts we will be reviewing all our skills ask we reflect on Advent. In Reading we will be analyzing characters throughout our viewing on the 1960s & 2000 versions of *How the Grinch Stole Christmas*. We will be comparing these two films as we prepare for the birth of Jesus. There will not be spelling this week. ***Each student is also expected to complete at LEAST 25 minutes of independent reading on a nightly basis.***

We will continue our Second Step Bullying Unit this week. This week we will focus on Bystander Power. Similar to Second Step lessons we completed during the first trimester, students will participate in a learning activity at school and then will be expected to complete a Homelink with a parent, trusted adult, or older sibling. ***This week Second Step Homelinks will be due on .***

In **Science** we will wrap up our unit entitled “Water is essential to life and is a limited resource for many people. This unit focuses on the concepts of change, responsibility, conservation, & distribution. This unit helps students develop the idea that water is a profoundly important natural resource, but one which requires surprising ingenuity to find and maintain. The students will be participating in classroom experiments & hands-on activities.

In **Religion** we will continue reflecting on ways of showing love and appreciation to our families. We will also continue our unit on God, Our Creator and Father. This unit focuses on God’s call to family, community, and participation. This fits perfectly with how we are called to action and we will be visiting Hero’s Cafe at the end of January to support the veterans in our own community. More information will be sent out in the New Year. We will also be reflecting on the third week & fourth week of Advent. The themes for this week are **JOY & LOVE!** As we prepare ourselves for the birth of Jesus, we will be moving/adding pieces of the creche (located outside the LRC) closer and closer to the manger where the Baby Jesus lays on Christmas morning. We have many exciting activities planned to help us better understand where we see joy and love in our own lives. ***We will also be leading the Advent Prayer Service on Friday @ 9:05 am. Please join us if you are able.***

Important Dates THIS week:

- **Monday** – Advent Prayer Service - Joy (led by 6th grade - please join us if you can!), Robotics, Spanish
- **Tuesday** – Music, Chapter 4 Math Test for Ms. Bakamis’ Math Class, 2 pm Dismissal
- **Wednesday** – Cozy Free Dress (Christmas Celebration), PE (don’t forget your PE shoes!)
- **Thursday** – Free Dress for our ORT Challenge @ Camp Seymour, Music, Library, Spanish, Holiday Celebration Continues (Christmas Craft & the movies *How the Grinch Stole Christmas (1960s version & 2000 version)*, **Christmas Program (please come to your homeroom between 6:00 pm & 6:15 pm - Show starts @ 6:30 pm) - students wear their Sunday Best for this performance**
- **Friday** – Free Dress (Christmas colors/caroling costumes), Advent Prayer Service - Love (led by 5th grade - please join us if you can!), school-wide Christmas Caroling Competition, 12 pm Dismissal

Upcoming Important Dates:

- *December 23rd - January 3rd - Christmas Vacation*
- *Wednesday, December 25th - Jesus' Birthday*
- *Wednesday, January 1st – Start of a new decade, bring on the “20s”*
- *Monday, January 6th - School resumes*
- *Thursday, January 16th – PreK and Kindergarten Open House*
- *Friday, January 17th – Geography Bee*
- *Monday, January 20th – Martin Luther King Holiday (No School)*
- *Thursday, January 23rd – Parents Club Meeting*
- *Friday, January 24th – Progress Reports and Kickoff to Magazine Sale*
- *Sunday, January 26th – Sunday Mass & Open House – Catholic Schools Week Begins*
- *Monday, January 27th – Open House during school hours & MAP testing window opens*
- *Tuesday, January 28th – Parent Appreciation Day*
- *Wednesday, January 29th – Community Appreciation Day*
- *Thursday, January 30th – Staff Appreciation Day*
- *Friday, January 31st – Student Appreciation Day & International Festival!*