

February 18th, 2020

Holy Spirit, call us to ACTION

IB Attribute of the Month: Open-Minded

“There will always be a frontier where there is an open mind and a willing hand.” - Charles Kettering

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

We continue our new **Second Step** Unit this week. This Unit will focus on Resisting Revenge. 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 Monday, February 24th.***

This week we will continue our **Social Studies** unit entitled “Different Perspectives can cause conflict.” This unit focuses on the American Revolution and will have the students establishing their own colonies and working together in groups for the second part of our simulation game. There will be many interactive learning activities for the students. This is an inquiry into the ways in which we express ideas, culture, beliefs and values. The transdisciplinary theme that we are focusing on is ***how we express ourselves***. Our main areas of focus are **causation** and **perspective**. Our related concepts are conflict, justice, and power. We will also explore how trade impacts societies and how geography influences human settlement. Throughout this unit the students will also learn significant historical events have implications for current decisions and influence the future. Some of the questions we will focus our lessons on are: How did countries colonize and who did it impact?, How did colonists make decisions to meet their wants and needs?, and What are the characteristics of the 13 colonies?. Many of these learning activities will be through an interactive simulation in which the students will form groups that are sailing to the New World. They will be making decisions as a group and working on their cooperation skills, their communication skills, as well as their persuasive writing skills.

In **Religion** we will explore Unit 5 - Morality, Our Lived Faith. This unit focuses on living like Jesus and making good moral decisions. Throughout this unit we will learn about Making Moral Decisions, Living a Moral Life, Growing in Holiness, The Way to Jesus, & Celebrating Easter.

In **Math**, Mrs. Dimock's math class, we will finish our work with exponents, order of operations, and expressions. There will be both a test next week and a task requiring students to demonstrate understanding by identifying and applying patterns. Ms. Bakamis’s class will wrap up our

studies of Chapter 6: Multiplying & Dividing Decimals. Mrs. Smith's class will continue their lessons in Chapter 5: Adding & Subtracting Decimals. 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, February 24th (2nd Trimester Time: 6 hours & 30 minutes).***

This week in **Reading & Language Arts**, we will begin our historical fiction book club groups. In these groups, we will be exploring how different perspectives can cause conflict during the American Revolution. There will be many skills that we focus on like vocabulary, comprehension, and making predictions. We will also continue using a new & improved Monthly Reading Log to make sure that we are reading throughout the week. *Each student is also expected to complete at LEAST 25 minutes of independent reading on a nightly basis. Our goal for the month of February is to fill at LEAST 15 lines of the log. Entries can be completed in class with our book club books or at home with our independent reading novels. Please make sure to sign it before it is due on Monday, March 2nd, 2020.* We will continue working on our monthly Bookworm Book Reports. Copies of both of these will be coming home with each student on Monday. Since we are working hard in our historical fiction book groups, we will be pushing the ***February/March Bookworm Book Report's due date to Tuesday, March 31st, 2020!*** In writing we will be working on using Linking Verbs. We will also continue with normal spelling this week with a Spelling Test on Friday (2/21). Spelling Practices may still be turned in on Friday.

Important Dates THIS week:

- ***Tickets are on sale for the Winter Musical, Mary Poppins, Jr. Show will perform Thursday - Saturday; Feb 20, 21, 22. Tickets \$10/ Adult \$5 per child/student under 18***
- **Monday** – No School (Presidents Day)
- **Tuesday** – Music, 5th Grade Valentines Day Party, 2 pm Dismissal
- **Wednesday** – PE (don't forget your PE shoes!)
- **Thursday** – Music, Library, Spanish, Mary Poppins Opening Night
- **Friday** – PE (don't forget your PE shoes!), Mass at 8:35 am (please join us!), Spelling Test #7, Mary Poppins

Upcoming Important Dates:

- *Saturday, February 22nd - Mary Poppins*
- *Monday, February 24th - Lenten Food Drive begins*
- *Wednesday, February 26th (Ash Wednesday) - All School Mass at 9:30 am*
- *Thursday, February 27th – State of the School*
- *Friday, March 6th - Lenten Food Drive ends*