

February 3rd, 2020

Holy Spirit, call us to ACTION

IB Attribute of the Month: Open-Minded

“Despite my firm convictions, I have always been a man who tries to face facts, and to accept the reality of life as new experience and new knowledge unfolds. I have always kept an open mind, a flexibility that must go hand in hand with every form of the intelligent search for truth.” - Malcolm X

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 the students will be finishing integers. ***There will be a test on Thursday.*** Ms. Bakamis’s class will continue 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 10th (2nd Trimester Time: 5 hours).***

This week in **Reading & Language Arts**, we will continue working on grammar conventions, & reading strategies. We will 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. 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. ***February’s Bookworm Book Report is due on Friday, February 28th, 2020!*** In writing we will be working on using Action Verbs with Direct Objects. We will also continue with normal spelling this week. Spelling Practices may still be turned in on Friday.

We continue our new **Second Step** Unit this week. This Unit will focus on different ways to Manage Anxiety. 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 Friday.***

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 The Church, Our Community in the Spirit. This unit focuses on the The Church as One, Holy Orders, the Domestic Church, God’s Calling, & Celebrations. Throughout this unit we will learn about the roles of the church members, St. Turibius of Mogrovejo, the sacraments of Matrimony & Holy Orders, our talents for service, & the Blessed Virgin Mary’s Calling.

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** – Robotics, Library, Spanish, **Magazine Sale continues**
- **Tuesday** – Music, **Magazine Sale continues**, 2 pm Dismissal
- **Wednesday** – PE (don’t forget your PE shoes!), **Magazine Sale continues**
- **Thursday** – Music, Library, Spanish, Global Reading Challenge @ 1:30 pm (please join us!), **Magazine Sale continues**
- **Friday** – PE (don’t forget your PE shoes!), School-wide Spelling Bee (Congratulations- Bennett, Lucy, Michael, Henry & Alexavier - alternate), Second Step Homelink Due, Spelling Practice Due, Spelling Test, **Magazine Sale ends**

Upcoming Important Dates:

- *Saturday & Sunday, February 8th & February 9th - Italian Dinner*
- *Thursday, February 13th - Black History Month Assembly, Noon dismissal. Extension will be in session until 6:00 pm, but you will need to pack a lunch and snack for your student as there is no lunch service that day.*
- *Friday, February 14th - No School (teacher inservice)*
- *Monday, February 17th – President’s Day Holiday*
- *Thursday, February 20th – Mary Poppins Opening Night*
- *Friday, February 21st - Mass at 9:30 am (please join us!), Mary Poppins*
- *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*