

Dear Parents,

We hope you made it into school today and got the next set of supplies and your child's report card. You should be set for the rest of the month!

Next week, we will be celebrating the mass of the Immaculate Conception. It is a virtual mass but this time we will all stay together and watch it over zoom as a class. The mass is on the schedule for Tuesday from 9:30-10:30. Mr. Boyle would like us all to be in our best school uniform. If this doesn't work for your family just let us know.

As a way to practice fluency, the children are being asked to locate their favorite Christmas picture book or poem to practice their fluency skills. They will practice rate, proper phrasing and expression. Each child should practice their story each night until Friday. Then on Friday they will share the story or poem on flip grid. If they choose to read their favorite picture book Christmas story, remind them as we will, to share the pictures and imagine they are reading to one of the younger students or have them read it to a younger sibling.

Our next IB unit begins next week. The central idea for the unit is **Invisible pushes and pulls help operate the world around us**. The key concepts we will be focused on are form and causation. This unit focuses mainly on our science standards and the related concepts of investigation, force, friction and magnets. Each week they will have an assignment to complete independently (asynchronous) on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. Unfortunately, we will only be able to start the unit before break and will then continue when we return.

We have included in our Homeroom google classroom a Christmas read aloud that we hope the children enjoy listening to- *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever*. *Remind them that after listening to the story, they should take an AR test on the book. The 2nd trimester has begun so they need to get a minimum of 5 AR points again.*

We have begun drafting our informational text. Students should be writing about a chapter every 1-2 days of writing. The goal is to be finished with their draft by next week. Please make sure to upload their writing at the end of each week. We will choose new topics in the new year.

Have a wonderful weekend!

Valerie Sheehan and Susan Smith