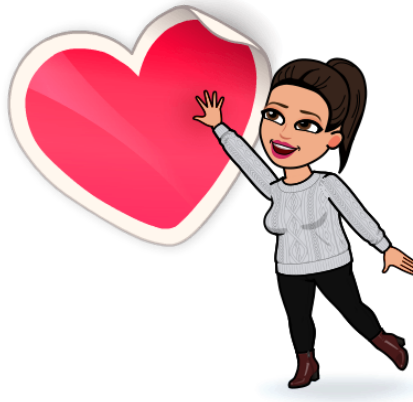




January 11th, 2021



IB Attributes of the Month: PRINCIPLED

## Ignite Hope: One LIGHT, Many Candles!

*"Hope smiles from the threshold of the year to come, whispering, 'It will be happier.'"*

*- Alfred Lord Tennyson*

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

In **Social Studies** we will continue our new unit entitled "Opportunity motivates people to leave home." The students will be learning about where we are in place and time through an interactive simulation. They have split into cooperative groups to learn about travelling to the New World and difficult decisions that colonists had to make as they left their home countries. This unit is an inquiry into how trade impacts societies, geography influences human settlement, culture, and how significant historical events have an implication for current decisions and influence the future. The concepts we are covering are: **change, connection, trade, and cost & benefits**. The students will reflect on their sailing voyages and will be writing diary entries describing their experiences in great detail.

In **Religion** this week we will focus on Session 7: Meeting Jesus. The students will be learning about the Seven Sacraments and will be reflecting on the blessings they receive and give others. This week Ms. Bakamis will be teaching us the importance of Managing Frustration during our **Second Step & Self-Care** class on Wednesday morning this week. Each student is responsible for completing the Second Step Homelink #12 with an adult family member by Sunday, January 17th.

In **Math**, this week **Mrs. Smith's** students take the Chapter 4 test on Monday over long division. The remainder of the week will be spent on the beginning of Chapter 5 on place value and a review of decimals. Please remind your son/daughter about completing 45 minutes of ALEKS this week by Sunday, January 17. **Ms. Bakamis'** class will begin our lessons in Chapter 5: Adding & Subtracting Decimals. The specifics on each lesson/assignment will be posted in Google Classroom. Along with their daily homework, students should also keep up with the required 45 minutes of ALEKS per week (by Monday night) which is worth 5 points per week in Math! In **Mrs. Dimock's** class students are wrapping up Ch. 5 on integers. We will review Tuesday and take the **test on Wednesday, January 12th**. This means we are finishing our first workbook. **The new workbooks are now available for pickup.** Each

is labeled with the student's name. Workbooks need to be picked up before Tuesday, January 19th. Please remind your students to complete 5 topics of ALEKS by Monday at 8 am.

This week in **Reading & Vocabulary**, we will be working in partners to practice our Context Clues Skills and we will begin reading about our assigned colonies for our Social Studies Colony Brochure Project. Students should also continue working on our January Digital Reading Logs. Each student should have 15 entries on their Digital Reading Log to receive full credit on this assignment. Our **January Digital Reading Logs are due Sunday, January 31st!** As a nightly practice, the students will be expected to complete at LEAST 30 minutes of reading. The students will review their progress on taking AR Quizzes on the books they've read so far this trimester. **Our second trimester goal is 15 AR points.**

In **Writing** last week, students completed two drafts of a personal narrative story. This week, students examine story arcs in a number of mentor texts and apply that concept to their own stories. They'll also learn about elaborating the important parts of their personal narrative stories. I will be doing individual conferences with students this week on their writing. **Grammar:** Students will work on grammar in MobyMax for 30 minutes this week. No Spelling this week.

### Important Dates THIS week:

- **Monday** – normal virtual day, specific assignments are listed on our Weekly-at-a-Glance, **Office Hours @ 1 pm - 2 pm**
- **Tuesday** – normal virtual day, specific assignments are listed on our Weekly-at-a-Glance, **Music @ 12:30 pm, Robotics @ 1:00 pm**
- **Wednesday** – normal virtual day, specific assignments are listed on our Weekly-at-a-Glance, **Library @ 12:30 pm, Office Hours @ 1 pm - 2 pm**
- **Thursday** – normal virtual day, specific assignments are listed on our Weekly-at-a-Glance, **Study Hall with Mrs. Smith @ 11:30 am - 12:30 pm, 5B Class Lunch @ 12:30 pm - 1 pm, Office Hours @ 1 pm - 2 pm**
- **Friday** – normal virtual day, Independent Work Day, specific assignments are listed on our Weekly-at-a-Glance, **Office Hours @ 10 am - 12 pm**

### Upcoming Important Dates:

- *Monday, January 18<sup>th</sup> – Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday, No SCHOOL!*
- *Tuesday, January 19<sup>th</sup> – Thursday, February 11<sup>th</sup> – MAP testing window*
- *Friday, January 22<sup>nd</sup> – Mid-trimester reports, Ms. Bakamis's Birthday*
- *Friday, January 29<sup>th</sup> – Fulcrum Celebration of Light “virtual” event*
- *Sunday - Friday, January 31st - February 5th - Catholic Schools Week (More details to follow)*
- *Friday, February 12<sup>th</sup> – Accreditation Pre-visit and staff workday for Accreditation, No School*
- *March 9<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> – ACCREDITATION VISIT*