



February 16th, 2021

IB Attributes of the Month: OPEN-MINDED

### Ignite Hope: One LIGHT, Many Candles!

*"Change will not come if we wait for some other person or some other time. We are the ones we've been waiting for. We are the change that we seek." - Barack Obama*

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 simulation as we establish colonies in the New World and are faced with difficult decisions that colonists had to make. This unit is entitled "Different perspectives can cause conflict." We will be exploring the challenging relationships between the colonists, their home countries & governments, and the Native Americans.

In **Science** this week we will continue our new unit entitled "Water is essential to life and a limited resource for many people." This unit is an inquiry into rights and responsibilities in the struggle to share finite resources with other people and with other living things. Our lessons will focus on the key concepts of *change*, and *responsibility* along with *conservation* and *distribution*.

In **Religion** this week we will focus our lessons on The Church is One (Unit 3, Session 11). We will be learning that the Church is united through the guidance of the Holy Spirit, that we are a diverse group of people who live in different places and have different roles. We will learn who are the visible signs of unity in the Church. This week during our **Second Step & Self-Care** class on Tuesday we will begin our Problem Solving unit. The students will review the Problem-Solving Steps together & will complete an in-class activity. Each student is also responsible for completing the **Second Step Homelink #16 with an adult family member by Sunday, February 21st.**

In **Math**, this week **Mrs. Smith's** students continue working in Chapter 6 (Multiply and Divide Decimals). We will work on multiplication of decimals on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. Students will take a quiz over new learning on Friday (asynchronous). Students are frequently reminded to complete their weekly requirement of 5 topics in ALEKS. This counts for 5 points weekly in Math. **Ms. Bakamis' class** will begin our lessons in Chapter 6: Multiplying & Dividing Decimals. **Chapter 5 Test Corrections are due on Tuesday, February 23rd.** Along with their daily homework, students should also keep up with the required or 5 topics of ALEKS this week by Sunday night which is worth 5 points per week in Math! In **Mrs. Dimock's** class Students took a test on Thursday. We will go over the test on Tuesday. **Test corrections will be due the**

**following Tuesday, February 23rd.** We are moving into our next unit -- Functions, Equations, and Inequalities, Oh My! Since the 5th graders are attending math via Zoom, homework will be collected each week on Thursday and returned on Monday. Please remind your student to complete their ALEKs.

This week in **Reading & Vocabulary**, we will begin reading our historical fiction novels about the American Revolution. Mrs. Feucht will also come into our classes and share some background information about the Revolutionary War. She will lead us through a virtual field trip to a museum, a book talk, and other exciting activities. Students will continue working on our February Digital Reading Logs. Each student should have 15 entries on their Digital Reading Log to receive full credit on this assignment. Our **February Digital Reading Logs are due Sunday, February 28th!** 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**. This week students continue to apply what they learned in the first and second "bends" of the Lucy Calkins Personal Narrative unit. Last week students were asked to write an entry or two in their writing journals to begin their last personal narrative story. They will be working with those entries to apply all they have learned about revision to make their story the best it can be. We only have about five more lessons in this unit. **Students will have spelling and grammar every week until the end of the year.** Spelling will continue to be online since we are still in hybrid mode and I teach both classes at the same time. In Grammar, students will begin each writing class with 10 minutes of grammar practice in MobyMax so they can meet their 30 minute requirement each week in class.

#### **Important Dates THIS week:**

- **Monday** – Presidents Day, NO SCHOOL
- **Tuesday** – 7th & 8th Grade Returns to In-person Learning!, Fat Tuesday (Mardi Gras), normal hybrid day, specific assignments posted in Google Classroom & handed out in class
- **Wednesday** – Ash Wednesday (Start of Lent), normal hybrid day, specific assignments posted in Google Classroom & handed out in class
- **Thursday** – normal hybrid day, specific assignments posted in Google Classroom & handed out in class
- **Friday** – 5B Morning Check-in @ 8:45 am, Independent Work Day, specific assignments posted in Google Classroom

#### **Upcoming Important Dates:**

- *Thursday, February 25th – State of the School*
- *Monday - Wednesday, March 15<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> – Accreditation Virtual Visit*
- *Thursday, March 18<sup>th</sup> – Report Cards Go Home*
- *Thursday & Friday, March 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> – Parent/Student/Teacher Conferences “remotely”*