

Dear Parents,

It's hard to believe that it was one year ago the world changed. We feel so blessed to have had so much support from parents and families during this crazy year. It has been a year of tremendous learning, counting our many blessings, and resilience. Your children have learned so many things this year beyond what they would normally learn in the classroom. In many ways, this difficult year has made us realize so many things we may have taken for granted.

Thank you for your support of the food drive. We beat the total number of items brought in last year and the food locker is now restocked. Food donations are accepted any time. The **sock drive** continues until the end of March, so please continue to bring in socks.

The **Usborne Virtual Book Fair** begins next week. So make sure to check it out. Here is the link: <https://i3466.myubam.com/>.

We look forward to meeting with you and your child next week during our **spring conferences** to discuss their progress and ways to finish the year strong. These will be virtual via zoom.

[Smith Conference Zoom Link](#)

[Sheehan Conference Zoom Link](#)

Report Cards will be coming home with your child on Monday, March 22. Please sign and return the envelope asap. If you have not returned your envelope from the first trimester, please do so Monday.

We have begun our **new IB unit** with the central idea "Indigenous people express their culture based on the resources available to them". The children have completed a google form letting us know which of the 7 tribes from across the United States, they would like to learn more about. We are doing our best to give the children their 1st or 2nd choice. In this unit, the children will be inquiring about how the tribes expressed their culture using the natural resources available to them. We will gain knowledge about the tribes shelters, clothing, arts and crafts, and music.

Storytelling is another way that Indigenous People express themselves. During ELA time, the children have begun learning about the function of **legends**. They are listening to creation stories from tribes across the United States and comparing them to each other as well as to the Catholic creation story. Next, they will listen to, read and discuss a variety of Indigenous legends ending with a Reader's Theatre performance of legends.

The week of March 22, we will begin teaching the 2nd Step: Bullying Prevention unit. We will begin sending Home Links to give you a place to open a conversation with your child.

Have a wonderful weekend,

Susan Smith and Valerie Sheehan