

Dear Parents,

Spring is here! The flowers are coming out and hopefully the weather will begin to get warmer. The children are getting a little bit of spring fever and who can blame them after all we are feeling it too! We look out the window and see so much new growth which brings us such joy!

Looking at the desks, we think it might be time for a little **spring cleaning**. We are asking the children to put all of the handed back work in their binders but somehow it ends up staying at school. Watch for work to be coming home!

It is also the beginning of **Holy Week**. Throughout the week, we will be learning about these holy days (The Triduum) as we prepare for Easter. On Thursday, we will be focusing on Holy Saturday and Easter. Mr. Boyle has asked us to have this be a day be a quiet nonelectricity day which works out great for the discussion of Holy Saturday and Jesus in the tomb. We are hoping to use candles to show the power of the Easter Vigil and then complete an art project for Easter.

We changed course in writing last week. Students have loved reading **Native American legends** and expressed interest in writing their own. So that's what we started last week. Students chose an animal and a part of nature they wanted to explain how it came to be. They are using the characteristics of legends to write their own story. We will continue this next week with the goal that they have a completed legend by the end of the week. Given our work on these stories, we will not have any grammar homework next week.

Our **IB unit** (Indigenous People Express their Culture Based on Natural Resources) is in full swing. The children have learned about and shared information about the shelter and clothing of their tribes from across the United States. Right now they are looking and inquiring about the arts and crafts created by the tribes which are many. Today, they were to read and reflect on the daily life of their tribe and how their lives are similar and different. Next week, we will be listening to and watching the music and dance of the Indigenous people.

Please check PowerSchool, we will have work updated by the end of the weekend. This way you can make sure your child has everything turned in so they can enjoy their Easter break.

We do meet in the morning of Good Friday for prayer and check in so please remind your children that Easter Break begins after check in.

Looking forward to a reflective Holy Week and rejuvenating spring break for all of us,
Valerie Sheehan and Susan Smith