

Dear Parents,

Spring has definitely sprung this week. The sunshine and warmer weather has brought lots of joy to all of us. The school garden will be getting new rich soil today so hopefully we will be going up to plant in the third grade garden plot someday soon. We will let you know when we find out.

It's time again to teach the Archdiocesan lesson from the Teaching Safety Curriculum. On Monday, we will teach a lesson called "Safe Adults, Safe Touches and Special Safe Adults". This lesson teaches students to recognize how to respect one's own boundaries, and the boundaries of others, to identify safe friends, safe adults and special safe adults, and better distinguish unsafe adults as well and also to stand up for themselves and others more effectively by responding in an appropriate manner to unsafe situations involving themselves or their friends.

We have included the opt-out form in the event that you would like your child to not participate. We only need it back if you have decided to not have your child in this lesson. Since we will be teaching the lesson on Monday afternoon **please send it right away** so that we can make plans for any child that will not be able to attend.

Picture Day is scheduled for Thursday, April 22. Mark your calendars and send your child in to school ready to have beautiful pictures taken. Remember that these are only individual pictures. We will not be able to have a class picture taken this year.

The auction is only 4 weeks away. **Auction donation deadline is April 30th** so send your items in soon. This is a wonderful community building event so be sure to purchase your tickets and meals early!

We began our new IB unit this week. Our central idea is: Animals and the places they live are NOT constant. In this unit students will develop an appreciation for how animals and the places they live (their habitats) are not constant—both the animals and the places they live have changed over time. In our first Mystery we will explore the idea that the rock under our feet contains fossils that can reveal how habitats have changed through time. For example, fossil shark teeth and fossil starfish found in the center of North America are evidence that what is grassland today must have been an ocean in the ancient past! You can help support your child's learning by talking to them about habitats, such as an exotic habitat you might have visited on vacation. If feasible, consider visiting your nearest science museum to see any fossils that have been found in your region.

Monday, we handed out the summative assessment form and rubric to your child. These can also be found on "Indigenous people express..." Google classroom. We have attached the document below. Students should be busy creating their projects. We have had many discussions about this in class. Please let us know if you have any questions.

Enjoy this beautiful weekend and thank you for all the wonderful treats you have sent in for us. We really appreciate all of the support this year.

Blessings,

Valerie Sheehan and Susan Smith