



December 6th, 2021

IB Attribute of the Month: Knowledgeable

Building a world of JOY!

*“When the power of love overcomes the love of power the world will know peace.” - Jimi Hendrix*

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

In **Writing** with Mrs. Smith: Students will review the basic 5-sentence paragraph structure (topic sentence, three details, and a closing sentence). Emphasis will also be on capitalization, punctuation, and spelling in sentences for the next two weeks before Christmas break. In addition, students are writing a narrative story based on the Chris Van Allsburg book, *The Mysteries of Harris Burdick*. Students will be revising their draft stories this week. Next week, students will publish their narratives on [Book Creator](#). If there are any questions, please email [rsmith@stlukeshoreline.org](mailto:rsmith@stlukeshoreline.org).

This week we will continue our **Social Studies** unit which is a colonial simulation as we explore the Central Idea: *Culture, trade, and geography played a part in the formation of the 13 colonies*. The students will be working in colony groups to sail to the New World, establish colonies, and interact with each other and the Native Americans in their geographic area to grow and thrive. These learning activities involve cooperation, problem solving and decision making, building **connections** between diverse groups of people, exploring opportunities for **trade**, and reflecting on the **cost and benefits** of their decisions and interactions. Throughout the simulation, we’ll reflect on the many ways in which the lives of the early colonists **change** and how they, as settlers, bring changes that impact their new environment.

In **Religion** this week we’ll be learning about the second and third weeks of Advent. We’ll reflect on peace & joy as we prepare for the birth of Jesus. We will also review the 2nd Trimester expectation of **10 service hours (due February 25th)**. During our weekly **Second Step** lesson we will learn about *Accepting Differences*. **Each student will be responsible for**

**completing a Homelink connected to the lesson with an adult every week. These Homelinks should be done with an adult & need to be signed by that adult before they are turned in!**

In **Math** with Ms. Bakannis, we will begin our lessons in Unit 6: Multiplying Decimals. In this unit students will learn how to identify patterns when multiplying decimals by powers of 10, to estimate products of decimals, how to represent multiplication involving decimals, how to use area models to multiply decimals, how to make generalizations about multiplying decimals, and how to explain different strategies when multiplying decimals. After each lesson, the students will work on a page of related questions. They'll also have a page of questions to work on at home. This practice will help them make meaning of the new skills & transfer them to their own lives. In **Math** with Mr. Carson, we will continue our new unit on Integers, Rational Numbers, and the Coordinate Plane. The test we took before the break has been posted to PowerSchool. If you have specific questions you can email [gcarson@stlukeshoreline.org](mailto:gcarson@stlukeshoreline.org). **This week the students will continue their weekly ALEKS assignment of completing at LEAST 5 topics by Monday, December 13th @ 8am!**

In **Reading & Spelling** with Ms. Bakannis, we will continue to review making predictions, making inferences, visualizing the story, examining the setting, discovering the theme, exploring the point of view of the text throughout the books we're reading. We'll also continue reading books at our own levels and will continue completing AR comprehension tests (our 2nd Trimester Goal is 15 points). Students will also work on their **December Bookworm Book Report due January 3rd! As a nightly practice, our expectation is to complete at LEAST 30 minutes of reading.** This week each student will have a list of words at their own level and will be expected to complete at LEAST 3 **different** practices in their Spelling composition notebooks by Friday, November 22nd. **Spelling practices & Spelling Tests will be turned in on Friday, December 10th at the beginning of class!**

#### Important Dates THIS week:

- **Monday** – Morning prayer led by 8<sup>th</sup> Grade students on Zoom, Second week of Advent (PEACE) & St. Nicholas Day, Spanish starts in the Auditorium
- **Tuesday** – Spanish starts, **2pm Dismissal**
- **Wednesday** – Feast of the Immaculate Conception, All School Mass 9:30 am, Spanish in the Auditorium
- **Thursday** – Spanish in the Auditorium
- **Friday** – Robotics & PE (don't forget to bring your PE shoes), Report Cards sent home with students

#### Upcoming Important Dates:

- **Monday, December 13<sup>th</sup>** – Third week of Advent (JOY)
- **Tuesday, December 14<sup>th</sup>** – Vaccination clinic for second dose – in gym at 9:00 AM-3:00PM
- **Wednesday, December 15<sup>th</sup>** – Christmas Pageant (Possible Time 2:00PM TBD)
- **Friday, December 17<sup>th</sup>** – Fourth Week of Advent (LOVE), Staff caroling before school, caroling competition by grade bands in gym, Noon dismissal
- **Monday, January 3<sup>rd</sup>** – School resumes! Welcome 2022!