

Dear Parents,

What a wonderful week celebrating Catholic schools. We hope you felt as appreciated as we did. The sweet cards, gifts, flowers and chocolates really made us feel loved. Thank you so much! Our partnership is what makes our school great.

**Parent + Teacher + Child = A Winning Team!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!**

Just a reminder that students record their weekly homework in their student planners on Monday. Our weekly homework is very similar each week. Read each night, practice spelling words, complete a math page (plus 5 min. MobyMax), and a grammar activity. If you are unsure what your child should be completing each night, it is also on each of our webpages and on our google site. It is updated weekly. In particular with grammar homework, nearly half of our students are not completing their packets and turning it in. They are taught a skill or concept on Monday with additional practice for homework each night and then they are assessed on Friday. You can surely tell who has studied spelling and grammar. Not practicing their spelling or grammar skills has resulted in lower test scores and potentially affecting their grades.

In reading and spelling, the children are supposed to complete their books (Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing, Frindle, or Lemonade War) by Wednesday, Feb. 9th. We will be spending a couple weeks working on nonfiction reading and text features. Our Inquiry unit next focuses on the political/cultural regions of Mexico and Canada. The children will be looking for the similarities and differences in these two countries. The spelling words on Monday will be studied for the next two weeks with the test being given on Feb. 18th.

During the month of February, we focus on the IB learner attribute of OPEN-MINDED. Along with that, we began studying about Black history this week during our class meeting time. We will be reading many wonderful books throughout the month. All students have chosen an influential person to learn about. They have been given a biography to read. Their books should be read by Monday, February 14th. We will be completing a quilt project that will be due Friday, February 25th. We will spend some class time working on the project but students may need to work on it at home as well.

In the Thursday packet that Margaret sent out yesterday, you will find the annual parent perception survey. The survey is a great place for you to share your thoughts on strengths and areas for growth in our school. The survey will be open until February 15th. Both the school leadership team and staff will analyze the results and respond accordingly. The results of the completed survey will be shared with all of you at the State of the School presentation on Thursday evening, March 3. To make it easy for you to find, here is a link to the survey.  
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/9CK7YSD>

**Feb. 10th School Spelling Bee**

**Feb. 11th No School/Teacher Inservice Day**

**Feb. 14th Valentine's Day** ~ The children may begin bringing in Valentine's on Wednesday, Feb.9th. If you decide to hand out Valentines then the Valentines must be brought in for the entire homeroom class. They **may also add in** the other Third Grade class. Lists or in the new directory.

Wishing you a relaxing weekend,

Susan Smith and Valerie Sheehan