Dear Parents,

For a shortened week we sure packed a lot into it! Thank goodness we have had beautiful sunshine which gives us the hope that spring is almost here.

We have finished up our IB unit on regions. Wow! The state floats and suitcases were very informative and beautiful. I wish we could have had a showing in our room so the rest of the school could have seen what wonderful work your children produced and all that they learned about the regions across the United States. We began our next IB unit, Indigenous People Express their Culture with the Resources Available to them, on Wednesday. The children will be inquiring into how the different tribes of Indigenous people around the United States used the resources they found in their environment to create a place to live, protect their bodies from the weather, communicate and trade with other tribes, learn and create baskets or totem poles and much more.

In reading/spelling class, we will be continuing our IB inquiry with a look at storytelling by the Indigenous tribes. We will begin with the different creation stories and move on to other legends that were told around a campfire. Besides our look at legends we will continue to focus on a different poem each week. Learning about the elements that make up a poem and the poetic devices often used.

We have begun writing persuasive speeches. Our focus has been on writing brave bold opinion statements and giving reasons to support our claims. We will continue to work on this and soon students will be choosing a topic they are passionate about to write a persuasive speech. We will share these at the end of our unit.

Upcoming Events:

March 17th: St. Patrick's Day-the children may wear GREEN FREE DRESS

March 18th: Last Friday of the month FREE DRESS-Last day to turn in any missing work for this reporting period.

**Lenten Mass** begins at 8:45 (we leave the room at 8:35 to get to the church (gym) on time. Please don't be late!!

March 24th and 25th: Conferences- NO SCHOOL ~ Don't forget to sign up for a conference on Sign Up Genius. Make sure it is a time you and your child are available.

Enjoy the long weekend,

Susan Smith and Valerie Sheehan