

Dear Parents,

We had a busy and productive week. Students are learning the vital skill of time management and responsibility to complete their work. Third grade is a year of growth and expectations. They are expected by the end of the year to be able to follow directions, explain their thinking, and write complete answers independently.

As part of our celebration of Catholic Schools Week, grandparents and "grand-friends" of St. Luke students are invited to attend a special mass in their honor at 9:30 am on February 1st. A program with light refreshments will follow. At the conclusion of the program, grandparents will receive a student-led tour and see our school in action. Please let all of your grandparents know and send them the link. [Here is the link to RSVP](#). Must RSVP by Jan 20th.

In reading both groups are working on their second assignments. Mrs. Sheehan is in the process of grading the assignment 1 packet but their vocabulary and comprehension quiz has been graded and put into PowerSchool. The next assignment (assignment 2) must be completed by Wednesday, January 18. By the end of assignment 2, Tales of a Fourth-Grade Nothing will have read all of chapters 1 through 4 and Lemonade War chapters 1 through 6. If they forgot to bring their packet home, remember that all of the work is available digitally on Reading/Writing google classroom. If your child does the work on google classroom remind them to let Mrs. Sheehan know so it can be graded.

In writing, we spent the week note-taking on cultural traditions. Students took notes on traditional foods, traditional clothing, holidays, and celebrations, along with sports and recreation. Next week we will be drafting one paragraph a day starting with traditional foods on Tuesday. Our goal will be to have all of the paragraphs drafted by Friday. The following week, we will be typing them into book creator to work on finishing our books. Some students have not finished taking notes in some of the sections, so they may have to write their paragraphs for homework. Most of the information they are using for research is found on EPIC and it is only available to them for free during school hours.

We learned about forces this week by considering some of the forces involved in designing a bridge (as an activity your child designed and tested their own bridge made of paper).

One fun thing you can do to support this week's learning is to sit down together with your child and enjoy browsing through some of the world's most intriguing and extraordinary bridges (see link). Based on what they learned in class, your child might point out to you where the bridge's weight is supported.

<http://www.thrillist.com/travel/nation/30-of-the-craziest-bridges-in-the-world>

Our next lesson on forces is about the force of friction.

Upcoming Events:

January 21st ~ St. Luke Parish "Trivia Night"

January 23rd-25th ~ MAPS testing - **Be sure to mark your calendars.**

January 27th ~ **Free Dress day**

January 30 - Feb. 3 **Catholic School's Week**

- Sunday, Jan. 29th, 9:00 AM Full staff attends Mass to begin Catholic Schools Week, followed by **Open House** displays throughout the school after Mass.
- Monday, Jan. 30th ~ Celebrate our parents
- Tuesday, Jan 31st ~ Celebrate our teachers
- Wednesday, Feb. 1st ~ Celebrate our grandparents and Faith community with an all-school mass followed by a brunch for the grandparents
- Thursday, Feb. 2nd ~ Celebrate our Alums and Donors – St. Luke Fan Club
- Friday, Feb. 3rd ~ Celebrate our Students

Have a wonderful Martin Luther King Jr Holiday weekend. We hope you take some time to do something of service.

Susan Smith and Valerie Sheehan