

Dear Parents,

Valentine's Day is approaching quickly! If your child would like to pass out Valentines, please have them for the entire class, or if you want to include both third grades, make sure it's for everyone. We have put Valentine Envelope holders in the hall for them to mail Valentine's cards or candy as they come in. Another big thank you to our room parents for organizing the food for the celebration.

The students have been very engaged in our 2nd Step lessons. In these lessons, students learn how to identify emotions in themselves and others and apply strategies to manage their emotions. The goals of this unit include students being able to explain the purpose of emotions, identifying differences between three gradations of the same emotion, recalling that emotions have a purpose - emotions provide important information about what they may need, naming an emotion-management strategy, including taking a break, slow breathing, and slow counting.

We have finished working on our country books in class. Mrs. Smith has checked them and will begin grading and printing them soon. If your child has completed their book, it will have a collected checkmark in PowerSchool. If your child's book is incomplete, they will have it marked missing and incomplete, along with a comment about what is missing. Please check this and help your child find the time to complete it.

The children have been learning a lot about the region of North America and are researching either Mexico or Canada to learn more about these two political regions. They chose different aspects of the culture that they wanted to compare. Next week the children will pair up to make those comparisons.

In reading, we will be focusing on reading nonfiction books next. We are beginning with a scavenger hunt for nonfiction text features. They will use the EPIC collection National Geographic Readers to locate the text features. Then each child will create a nonfiction lap book about themselves using those different text features.

Remember, the Parent Perception Survey closes tomorrow! We'd like to hear from you, so we hope you can complete it before it closes. <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Y75WN5X>

Upcoming Dates:

2/10 - Teacher In-Service - **NO SCHOOL**

2/15 - Opt-out for enrollment due for current families

2/16 - State of the School - 6:30 pm in the auditorium

2/17 - **FREE DRESS DAY!** (Note the new date!)

2/20 - Presidents Day - **NO SCHOOL**

2/22 - Ash Wednesday - Liturgy of the Word with the distribution of ashes at 9:30 am

2/23 - Parents Club Meeting via Zoom - 7:00 pm

2/24 - St. Luke hosts Superintendent of Catholic Schools - **BEST UNIFORMS!**

2/24 - All-School Spelling Bee in the auditorium - 9:00 am

3/2-4 - MYP Performance - 7:30 pm - Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat

We hope you all enjoy your long weekend!

Valerie Sheehan and Susan Smith