



September 24th, 2023

“Reflecting God’s Kindness!”

“Carry out a random act of kindness, with no expectation of reward, safe in the knowledge that one day someone might do the same for you.” - Princess Diana

We had a great week persevering through MAP tests and encountering new ideas in our lessons. Here’s where we’re headed as we settle into our “normal” rhythm:

This week in **Science** we continue our first unit on the systems of interdependent parts that make up our living world. The exploration builds an understanding of the way energy cycles through an “ecosystem,” with each part dependent on the others. Our IB key concepts of *change* and *connection* are particularly relevant to these lessons.

In **Religion** this week, we continue with our first unit, “God, Our Creator and Father.” Building on how creation reveals God’s love and our call to care for this gift, we now go deeper with the story of God’s salvation, revelation, and direction for our lives. We will also explore the season of Ordinary Time (which has a meaning far beyond what the name implies!) As always, please ask your students about our classroom discussions so you can share more about your own family’s spiritual practices.

This week in **Math** with Ms. Bakamis & Mr. Scholz, we will wrap up our first unit entitled “Place Value and Number Relationships.” **Our test will be on Wednesday, September 27th.** Students will demonstrate how to generalize place value, extend place value to decimals, read & write decimals, compare decimals, & use place value to round decimals. Mr. Carson will be continuing as our math coach providing support and challenge for our rotating small groups. We will be starting our new unit on adding/subtracting decimals at the end of the week! **Our weekly ALEKS expectation is that each student completes at LEAST 5 topics (& at LEAST 45 minutes) by Sunday night.**

This week in **Reading & Spelling** with Ms. Bakamis, we will continue to build upon our reading comprehension skills. We will also continue our Spelling practices this week. **Each student is expected to practice their spelling words at LEAST 3 times in their Spelling Notebook prior to our test on Friday, September 29th.** As a nightly practice, each student will be expected to complete at LEAST 30 minutes of reading. **Our first trimester AR goal is 15 points!**

In **Writing** with Mr. Scholz, we are moving forward in our Grammar unit on "Parts of Speech," building our understanding of prepositions and prepositional phrases to make our descriptions clearer! In Writing, our "small moment story" skills are growing as we practice generating new topics from people, places, and emotions that hold meaning for us. We are now becoming familiar with tools including point of view, revision, and assessing work on a checklist. With the upcoming rapid "flash-drafting" of our favorite story ideas, the topic for our final paper is not too far away!

Important Dates THIS week:

- Monday – PE & Library (both classes), Spanish (5B)
- Tuesday – Music (5A), Spanish (5B), 2 pm Early Dismissal
- Wednesday – **Mass (dress uniforms)**, Library & PE (both classes), **Math Test**, Spanish (5A), **Camp Seymour Meeting at 6 pm in the St. Luke Auditorium**
- Thursday – Music (5B) & Spanish (5A)
- Friday – **Non-uniform day!**, **Spelling Test and practices due**, Music (both classes)

Upcoming Dates:

Safe Environment Training (Online now) → Needs to be completed prior to Camp Seymour

Friday, October 13th - No school for Staff In-service Day

Tuesday, October 17th - St. Luke-A-Thon!

Wednesday, October 18th - Feast of St. Luke Mass

Thursday, October 19th - Great WA State Shake-Out Earthquake Drill

Friday, October 20th - Mid-trimester reports

Tuesday - Friday, October 24th – 27th - Grade 5 goes to camp!

Tuesday, October 31st – Trunk-or-Treat

Wednesday, November 1st – All Saints Day (All school Mass)

Thursday, November 2nd – Class photos and picture retakes