



October 8th, 2023

Attributes of the month: Caring & Balanced

“Reflecting God’s Kindness!”

“The simple act of caring is heroic.” - Edward Albert

Here’s where we’re headed in the classroom:

This week in **Math** with Ms. Bakamis & Mr. Scholz, we will continue our unit on adding and subtracting decimals! We will wrap up our unit with a discussion of strategies and have the unit test on the Monday following the three-day weekend. Mr. Carson will be continuing as our math coach providing support and challenge for our rotating small groups. **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 read more about an ecosystem that interests us. Students will also be encouraged to continue to read books within their new Lexile Level. We will go over options for our first book report. **Our October Book Report is due Tuesday, November 1st, 2023.** We will also continue our differentiated Spelling practices this week. **Due to the short week, each student is expected to practice their spelling words at LEAST 5 times in their Spelling Notebook prior to our test on Friday, October 20th.** As a nightly practice, each student will be expected to complete at LEAST 30 minutes of reading of a book of their choice. **Our first trimester AR goal is 15 points!**

In **Writing** with Mr. Scholz, we will continue our “seed idea” story drafts for Narrative Writing, considering how to make our small-moment memories come alive for the audience. We are re-considering the major point of the story so we can focus on what the story is really about, and why it matters! Our drafts are improving by applying storytelling techniques such as the arc of the story, and flashbacks/flashforwards. As we approach the final draft next week, we will also examine powerful endings. This week’s Grammar practice (using the MobyMax online tool and interactive reference notebooks) will move us into that crucial element of writing, the verbs that tell us what is happening in the scene. Please ask your student to share with you what they have learned and review

their notebooks with them. Teaching family members is a great way to reinforce our classroom activities!

This week in **Science** our lessons conclude this unit on the systems of interdependent parts that make up our living world. Our IB key concepts of *change* and *connection* are particularly relevant to this unit. Students will have an opportunity to apply their understanding of ecosystems very soon in Camp Seymour's Environmental Education activities!

In **Religion** this week, we move towards the end of our first unit, "God, Our Creator and Father." The unit builds on the lessons of "Creation," through "Redemption" and "Revelation," ending with a focus on how God directs our lives. This includes the famous "Beatitudes" from the Sermon on the Mount as seen on our hallway banners! From here we explore the seven sacraments as experienced during the season of Ordinary Time. This unit has focused on the God the Father, and our next unit shifts the focus toward the Son and the Holy Spirit to complete the Holy Trinity, one God in three persons. These are great mysteries even for us as adults but we see great reflection and inquiry from our 5th graders as they consider these big ideas!

Important Dates THIS week:

- Monday – PE & Library (both classes), Spanish (5B)
- Tuesday – Music (5A), Spanish (5B), **Fire Drill followed by Grade Band safety presentations by Shoreline Fire Department**, 2 pm Early Dismissal
- Wednesday – **Mass (dress uniforms)**, Library & PE (both classes), Spanish (5A)
- Thursday – Music (5B) & Spanish (5A)
- Friday – **No school for Staff In-service Day**

Upcoming Dates:

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

Tuesday, October 17th - St. Luke-A-Thon! Students should wear their St. Luke spirit shirts

Wednesday, October 18th - Feast of St. Luke Mass, Full dress uniforms!

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! (We will try to participate in Spirit Week while we are there!)

Tuesday, October 31st – Trunk-or-Treat

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

Thursday, November 2nd – Class photos and picture retakes