



November 26th, 2023

Attribute of the month: Inquirer

"Reflecting God's Kindness!"

"Gratitude is the inward feeling of kindness received. Thankfulness is the natural impulse to express that feeling. Thanksgiving is the following of that impulse." - Henry Van Dyke

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

This week in **Reading & Spelling** with Ms. Bakamis, students will present their **Book Reports in class this week**. They are also expected to take an AR Quiz on this book. We will also work on another comprehension packet for chapters 7 and 8 from our read-aloud A Week in the Woods. This packet will be due next week. **Our first trimester AR goal is 15 points by December 1st!** We will have new Spelling to practice this week! **Each student is expected to have practiced their spelling words at LEAST three times and will turn in their Spelling Notebook before their Weekly Spelling test on Friday, December 1st.** We have posted the Spelling Bee Word Lists on Toddle Announcement for your students to begin practicing for the Classroom Spelling Bee in late January and the School Spelling Bee on February 22nd!

In **Writing** with Mr. Scholz, we are moving on to our new unit! In Trimester 2, students will undertake a major informational writing paper, building up to our work on Exhibition in the spring. This week, we start by taking apart the core piece of this writing style: the informational paragraph. Before we head to Christmas break, we will draft, revise, and submit our absolute best, most polished paragraph! This week we also return to our Grammar work in our notebook and Mobymax, looking at the small-but-mighty punctuation element: the comma!

This week we move deeper into our **Social Studies** unit, refining and expanding skills in reading maps as students take on the role of an English colonist sailing across the Atlantic. We have built out the historical context to better understand who these colonists were, and will next go deeper into the perspectives that divided even the colonists who left from the same country! With our central idea of "Diverse beliefs and values motivate people to leave home," we continue to expand our understanding of the cultures and individuals that formed the background for the American Revolution.

In **Religion** this week, we continue our second unit's focus on Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit. We first explore the importance of the seven sacraments as the key signs of Christ's love for us, then zoom in on the importance of Baptism and Confirmation for the life of grace, friendship and imitation of Christ. As we enter the anticipatory season of Advent on Sunday, December 3rd, we will also explore the themes of preparing our hearts to receive and reflect God's love at Christmas.

This week in **Math** with Ms. Bakanis & Mr. Scholz, we have embarked on Unit 6, "Multiplying Decimals." From our understanding of place value and estimating products of decimals, we now are using multiple representations and strategies to approach decimal multiplication. This unit builds the conceptual foundation necessary for more complex math coming in middle school, as students learn to combine their understanding of multiplication with the principles of fractions and division. This is also a great opportunity to link with the independent exploration students are practicing in ALEKS. Please continue to check in with your student about their achievements and challenges in both ALEKS and our math curriculum (*the weekly expectation for ALEKS is 45 minutes and 5 topics by Sunday evening*).

Important Dates THIS week:

- **Monday** – PE & Library (both classes), Spanish (5B)
- **Tuesday** – Music (5A), Spanish (5B)
- **Wednesday** – PE & Library (both classes), Spanish (5A)
- **Thursday** – Music (5B) & Spanish (5A)
- **Friday** – **Spelling practices & assessment**, Music (both classes), **End of First Trimester** & Figgy Pudding choir event (Pike Place Market)

Upcoming Dates:

- *Sunday, December 3rd – First Sunday of Advent*
- *Monday, December 4th – Start of Second Trimester*
- *Wednesday, December 6th – **St. Nicholas Day**, Staff Caroling at Hertl Home*
- *Thursday, December 7th – Caroling Competition Practice #1*
- *Friday, December 8th – Feast of the Immaculate Conception & 1st-trimester report cards ready for family view on Toddle*
- *Monday, December 11th – Second Advent Prayer Service led by 5th grade in auditorium (8:30AM)*
- *Tuesday, December 12th – Second rehearsal for Christmas program (9:00AM- church)*
- *Wednesday, December 13th – Penance Service in church – (9:15AM-start), **Christmas Program (6:30PM)***
- *Thursday, December 14th – Second House Caroling rehearsal (1:30PM) Grade band caroling practice #2*
- *Friday, December 15th – **Non-Uniform Day, Christmas Clothes Encouraged!**, Staff caroling during morning carpool, Third House Caroling rehearsal*
- *Monday, December 18th – January 2nd Christmas Vacation*
- *Tuesday, January 2nd – **Welcome Back!***