



November 5th, 2023

Attribute of the month: Inquirer

“Reflecting God’s Kindness!”

“Our greatest weakness lies in giving up. The most certain way to succeed is always to try just one more time.” - Thomas A. Edison

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

In **Religion** this week, we begin our second unit which focuses on the work of Jesus and the Holy Spirit. We begin by exploring the Catholic understanding of Jesus Christ as Son of God, the saving action of Christ’s death and resurrection, and the new life we receive through the sacrament of Baptism. This past week, we had good conversations about All Saints Day, All Souls Day, and Dia de los Muertos. We encourage you to talk with your student about traditions you have for honoring those who have passed on and your family’s perspective on the world beyond. As we move towards conferences, please also note that ***Camp Seymour journals are due this week on Thursday November 9th (at least 3 journal entries (5 sentences each)).*** This is an important opportunity to reflect on the unique experience!

This week in **Math** with Ms. Bakanis & Mr. Scholz, we will conclude our unit on Multiplying Multi-Digit Numbers. In this unit, we learned how to understand powers & exponents, found patterns when multiplying whole numbers by powers of ten, estimated products of multi-digit factors, used area models to multiply multi-digit factors, used partial products to multiply multi-digit factors, related partial products of an algorithm, and multiplied multi-digit factors fluently. **Our unit 5 test will be on Thursday, November 9th. Our weekly ALEKS expectation is that each student completes at LEAST 5 topics (& at LEAST 45 minutes) by Sunday night (due November 11th).**

This week in **Reading & Spelling** with Ms. Bakanis, students will finish their **Ecosystems project in Library due November 8th.** They will also be turning in a **Book Report due on November 17th, 2023.** This book should be something they’ve finished since we started school and should be within their current Lexile Level (or within 100 points). It is also expected that they also take an AR Quiz on this book. **Our first trimester AR goal is 15 points!** We will have new Spelling to practice for the next two

weeks! **Each student is expected to have practiced their spelling words at LEAST five times and will turn in their Spelling Notebook before their test on Friday, November 17th. We will have our Spelling Test on Friday, November 17th.** We have also sent out via Toddle Announcement the Spelling Bee Word Lists 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 have set ourselves up for an epic sprint through our new narrative story! We brainstormed seed ideas and will now use our plot diagrams to guide our story arcs in new flash-drafts. Now familiar with the process of writing a small moment story, we are using mentor texts (particularly Sandra Cisneros' *Eleven*) to inspire specific improvements in our second story. We will also be continuing our Grammar practice with "Shifts in Verb Tense," making sure our audience understands *when* our story's action is taking place!

This week we shift from our Science unit to begin our first **Social Studies** unit. We will learn about the early European colonists who emigrated to North America. Our central idea is "Opportunity motivates people to leave home." This is an exciting unit where students work through a simulation activity to apply geography, math, and group social skills in sailing to the "New World" and establishing a colony. These historical experiences help us to explore the Social Studies theme for 5th grade, focusing on the perspectives that shaped the development of the American colonies and our country.

Important Dates THIS week:

- **Monday** – PE & Library (both classes), Spanish (5B)
- **Tuesday** – Music (5A), Spanish (5B)
- **Wednesday** – **Library Ecosystems Report due**, PE & Library (both classes), Spanish (5A)
- **Thursday** – Music (5B) & Spanish (5A), **Veterans' Day Assembly**, **Unit 5 Math Test**
- **Friday** – **No School Veterans' Day Holiday**

Upcoming Dates:

- *Monday, November 13th – 27th Book Fair*
- *Tuesday, November 14th – Bowling with Boyle*
- *Friday, November 17th – Non-Uniform Day & MYP Service day (7th & 8th grades)*
- **Monday - Wednesday, November 20th 22nd – Student-led Conferences (attend only your scheduled conference time)**
- **Thursday, November 23rd – 26th – Thanksgiving Break (No School)**
- **Friday, December 1st – End of First Trimester & Figgy Pudding**
- *Sunday, December 3rd – First Sunday of Advent*
- *Monday, December 4th – Start of Second Trimester*
- **Friday, December 8th – Feast of the Immaculate Conception & 1st-trimester report cards ready for family view on Toddle**