



January 14th, 2024

IB Attribute for January: Principled

“Reflecting God’s Kindness!”

“Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that.” - Martin Luther King, Jr.

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

This week in **Reading & Spelling** with Ms. Bakamis, will continue to work on their comprehension by taking AR tests on the books that they have finished. **Our second trimester AR goal is 15 points!** As a nightly practice, students are expected to read for 30 minutes of a book of their own choice in their current Lexile Level. We are working on completing our January Book Reports that are due at the end of the month. Students received paper copies of this in class, and there is also an electronic copy posted on Toddle. **The January Book Report is due on Wednesday, January 31st!** Due to MAP Testing, **we will NOT have new Spelling Words this week.** The students will be encouraged to practice for the upcoming Spelling Bee. 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!

This week in **Writing** with Mr. Scholz, we will build on our developing research skills. To prepare for informational writing in both the writing unit and our upcoming exhibition research, we learned and practiced three note-taking strategies: “boxes and bullets,” “words-facts-opinions,” and “Cornell notes.” Now we will learn some historical background to extend our Social Studies knowledge in the era of North American colonization, and consider how we will present our research with a clear structure and engaging style!

This week in **Social Studies**, all the colonies have landed in our “Discovery” simulation. We now pause, identify the challenges of both the Atlantic crossing and the upcoming settlement phase, and consider what this moment was like for the actual historical figures. We will resume the simulation

later in the trimester, after our next science unit on water (further expanding our Exhibition inquiry topic!)

In **Religion**, we continue our second unit, entitled "Jesus, Our Lord and Savior." After introducing the importance of the seven sacraments, we now look at what it means to be "Baptized into Christ" and "Growing in the Spirit" (Session 7 and 8, respectively). These lessons explore the importance of this crucial ritual for Christians and the ways that it empowers us to live more fully the life of grace, reflecting God's love to those around us. There is also a strong link between our Christian baptismal call and the values we practice everyday as a St. Luke community!

This week in **Math** with Ms. Bakamis & Mr. Scholz, assisted by Mr. Carson, we will begin Unit 8, "Divide Decimals." In this unit, we will learn about division patterns, how to estimate quotients of decimals, how to represent the division of decimals by a whole number, how to divide decimals by whole numbers by decimals and use representations, and how to divide decimals by decimals. These are challenging topics but provide a crucial foundation for MYP math, so we encourage all families to continue practicing the homework together: as Ms. Bakamis often says, the best way to practice your skills is to teach someone else! **We will also continue our usual weekly ALEKS assignment (45 minutes and 5 topics by Sunday evening).**

Important Dates THIS week:

- **Monday** – No School (MLK Jr. Holiday)
- **Tuesday** – Music (5A), Spanish (5B), **5th grade MAP testing begins (Math)**
- **Wednesday** – PE & Library (both classes), Spanish (5A), **5th grade MAP testing (Language)**
- **Thursday** – Music (5B) & Spanish (5A), **5th grade MAP testing (Science)**
- **Friday** – Music (both classes), **5th grade MAP testing (Reading)**

Upcoming Dates:

- **Friday, January 26th – Non-uniform day**
- **Sunday, January 28th – Friday, February 2nd – Catholic Schools Week!**
 - *Sunday, January 28th – Open House follows 9:00 AM Mass*
 - *Monday, January 29th – Parent Appreciation Day*
 - *Tuesday, January 30th – Staff Appreciation Day*
 - *Wednesday, January 31st - Grandparents Appreciation Day & Brunch*
 - *Thursday, February 1st – St. Luke Parish Staff & St. Luke School Alumni Appreciation Day*
 - *Friday, February 2nd – Student Appreciation Day & International Fest!*