



January 7th, 2024

IB Attribute for January: Principled

“Reflecting God’s Kindness!”

“Kindness in words creates confidence. Kindness in thinking creates profoundness. Kindness in giving creates love.” - Lao Tzu

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

This week in **Math** with Ms. Bakanis & Mr. Scholz, assisted by Mr. Carson, we continue Unit 7, “Dividing Whole Numbers,” stretching ourselves to recognize and apply the conceptual link between multiplication and division! We will be practicing our division strategies and their application to real-world scenarios as we conclude the unit. **Unit 7 Test will be on Friday, January 12th. We will also continue our usual weekly ALEKS assignment (45 minutes and 5 topics by Sunday evening).**

This week in **Reading & Spelling** with Ms. Bakanis, 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, but there is also an electronic copy posted on Toddle. **The January Book Report is due on Wednesday, January 31st! Each student is expected to have practiced their spelling words at LEAST five times and will turn in their Spelling Notebook before their Weekly Spelling test on Friday, January 12th.** 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 continue our Grammar work to support our informational writing! Building on the work with paragraphs, we now focus on strong sentences. These grammar lessons teach us how to “Combine and Reduce Sentences,” creating a logical flow of relevant elements. This will be key as we move into our research for both our “Lens of History” unit and our upcoming Exhibition research project!

This week in **Social Studies**, students are experiencing the arduous journey of the English colonists’ Atlantic sea-crossing in our “Discovery simulation”! Having used their collected funds to purchase food and supplies, they now encounter perhaps favorable conditions and accurate calculations, or the treacherous nature of 16th century long-distance travel. When all the colonies have landed, we will pause and consider the factors that impacted the journey. We will resume the simulation later in the trimester as the colonists try to build a new life with only the resources they have at hand!

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!

Important Dates THIS week:

- **Monday** – PE & Library (both classes), Spanish (5B), **purple & gold spirit day (see attached flier)**
- **Tuesday** – Music (5A), Spanish (5B), **Dr. James Knight’s presentation on Cultural Humility through the lens of our Catholic Faith (“Embracing One Another in Love and Humility”)**
- **Wednesday** – PE & Library (both classes), Spanish (5A)
- **Thursday** – Music (5B) & Spanish (5A)
- **Friday** – Music (both classes)

Upcoming Dates:

- **Monday, January 15th – MLK Jr. Holiday (No School)**
- **Tuesday, January 16 - 5th grade MAP testing begins**
- **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!*