



February 10th, 2024

Monthly IB Attribute: Open-Minded

"Reflecting God's Kindness!"

"We can also draw upon the incredible diversity of the Church worldwide in providing education within the family, and make clear that God dwells in the equal dignity of each person."

- Venerable Augustus Tolton (first Black American priest)

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

This week in **Math** with Ms. Bakamis & Mr. Scholz, assisted by Mr. Carson, we continue Unit 9 "Add and Subtract Fractions." In this unit we are building skills on estimating fractions, how to add and subtract fractions and mixed numbers with unlike denominators, and adding and subtracting mixed numbers with regrouping. It is expected that each student will review their homework with an adult every evening and will be prepared to check their answers the following day with their Math groups. **We continue our usual weekly ALEKS assignment (45 minutes and 5 topics by Sunday evening).**

This week in **Reading & Spelling** with Ms. Bakamis, will continue to work on their comprehension and vocabulary skills as we read the novel A Long Walk to Water. This week, Ms. Bakamis will check our previous progress on these comprehension packets and we will begin reading Chapters 10, 11, and 12 and completing the corresponding comprehension activities. **Chapters 10, 11, & 12 comprehension packets are due Friday February 16th!** At this point in the trimester each student should have earned at least 8 AR points to be on track to reach **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. Students received paper copies of this in class, and there is also an electronic copy posted on Toddle. **The February Book Report is due on Friday, March 1st!** We will have new Spelling Words this week. These words will be written in your student's planner and they will be expected to practice these words at LEAST 3 times by Tuesday, February 20th. **School Spelling Bee on February 22nd!**

This week in Writing with Mr. Scholz, our American Colonial research paper moves to the next phase with new resources and strategies! With flash drafts completed, we cut them apart and taped them into notebooks so we can correct, revise, and expand on the body paragraphs we started. We will now apply new "lenses" to help us think like historians and integrate geography, timelines, and

eventually primary sources to our final products. The final paper and bibliography will be due on Friday, March 1st. Please ask your student about how their research is going so far and what they are most excited to research next!

This week in **Science**, we will continue our new unit entitled “Water is essential to life and a limited resource for many.” In this unit, we are investigating the distribution of water, how it cycles through Earth’s systems, and exploring how it affects human societies. Students met with their exhibition mentors last week and are now starting their research. Final exhibition presentations will be on Thursday March 21st, in honor of World Water Day!

In **Religion**, we continue our new unit on “The Church, Our Community in the Spirit,” exploring signs of unity in the Church, Holy Orders, the Domestic Church, and the universal call to holiness in service of God and neighbor. Our discussions on the vocations “at the service of the community” in Holy Orders and matrimony, especially our experience of learning how to grow as a family, is a great moment to reflect on the many ways we are called to “reflect God’s kindness” using our unique gifts throughout our lives.

Important Dates THIS week:

- Monday – **A Long Walk to Water Packet due (Ch. 7 - 9)**, PE & Library (both classes), Spanish (5B), **Mid-Trimester (please check Toddler & Missing Work Lists emailed out last week)**
- Tuesday – Music (5A), Spanish (5B), **Valentine’s Day & Mardi Gras party**
- Wednesday – PE & Library (both classes), Spanish (5A), **Ash Wednesday**
- Thursday – Music (5B) & Spanish (5A)
- Friday – Music (5A & 5B), **Spelling Test**

Upcoming Dates:

- Monday, February 19th – **Presidents’ holiday (NO SCHOOL)**
- Wednesday, February 21st – **All School Masses Begin during Lent, Lenten Virtue is Faith**
- Thursday, February 22nd – **School-wide Spelling Bee**
- Friday, February 23rd – **Non-Uniform Day**
- Thursday, February 28th – **Lenten Virtue for Mass is Reverence**