



February 4th, 2024

Monthly IB Attribute: Open-Minded

**“Reflecting God’s Kindness!”**

*“Truth is powerful and it prevails.” - Sojourner Truth*

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

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.

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 by taking AR tests on the books that they have finished. We will also continue working on our 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 7, 8, and 9 and completing the corresponding comprehension activities. **Chapters 7, 8, & 9 comprehension packets are due Monday February 12th!** 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. We will work on our February **Book Reports that are due on Friday, March 1st.** 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!** To help us prepare for our **Classroom Spelling Bee on Tuesday February 6th**, we will NOT have new Spelling Words this week. Ms. Bakamis has posted the Spelling Bee Word Lists on Toddle Announcement for the students to

continue practicing for the **Classroom Spelling Bee February 6th** and the **School Spelling Bee on February 22nd!**

This week in **Writing** with Mr. Scholz, we continue our “Thirteen Colonies” research paper with our first flash draft. Students will organize their notes into the major categories needed for our upcoming five-paragraph essay structure and create a rough foundation from which to build! Upcoming lessons will help with revision as we look at the role of geography, timelines, and eventually primary sources. The resources will expand to include not only the textbook and library books but also websites, learning to apply the knowledge of bibliographies from Mrs. Feucht’s class here (and practice for the Exhibition research too!)

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 will consider the profound importance of water as a natural resource. The students will investigate the distribution of water, how it cycles through Earth’s systems, and explore how it affects human societies. This is our exhibition unit and students have now selected their water-related topic, which they will discuss this week with their mentors.

#### **Important Dates THIS week:**

- **Monday** – PE & Library (both classes), Spanish (5B)
- **Tuesday** – Music (5A), Spanish (5B), **5th Grade Classroom Spelling Bee**
- **Wednesday** – PE & Library (both classes), Spanish (5A)
- **Thursday** – Music (5B) & Spanish (5A)
- **Friday** – **Mid-Trimester (please check Toddle & Missing Work Lists emailed out) & Teacher Inservice Day (No school for students)**

#### **Upcoming Dates:**

- **Monday, February 12th** - **A Long Walk to Water Packet due (Ch. 7 - 9)**
- **Tuesday, February 13<sup>th</sup>** – **Valentine’s Day & Mardi Gras party**
- **Wednesday, February 14<sup>th</sup>** – **Ash Wednesday → Lent begins**
- **Monday, February 19<sup>th</sup>** – **Presidents’ holiday (NO SCHOOL)**
- **Wednesday, February 21<sup>st</sup>** – **All School Masses Begin during Lent, Lenten Virtue is Faith**
- **Thursday, February 22<sup>nd</sup>** – **School-wide Spelling Bee**
- **Friday, February 23<sup>rd</sup>** – **Non-Uniform Day**
- **Thursday, February 28<sup>th</sup>** – **Lenten Virtue for Mass is Reverence**