



May 12th, 2024

Monthly IB Attribute: Thinkers

“Reflecting God’s Kindness!”

*“The function of education is to teach one to think intensively and to think critically.
Intelligence plus character - that is the goal of true education.”*

- Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

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

This week, we will return to our new **Science** unit, “Spaceship Earth.” In this unit, students will explore the Earth, Sun, Moon, and stars using observations of shadows and changing patterns in the sky. Students will also explore the planets of our Solar System and begin to consider what might lie beyond.

In **Religion** this week, we continue Unit 4 on “Sacraments, Our Way of Life.” This unit aligns with our celebration of the Easter season, starting with the “New Passover,” our foundational understanding of the signs and symbols of the Eucharist in Mass. From there we move into the sacraments of healing and restoration, Reconciliation/Penance, and the Anointing of the Sick. We will also reflect on Mary’s example of holiness, particularly as we honor her in Wednesday’s May Crowning after Mass!

This week in **Reading** with Ms. Bakamis, we will begin our historical fiction novel study soon. Students will be reading the following books: My Brother Sam is Dead, Johnny Tremain, and The Notorious Benedict Arnold. Each of these stories highlights the struggle for independence and the founding of our nation. As a nightly practice, students are also expected to read for 30 minutes a book of their own choice in their current Lexile Level. **Our second trimester AR goal is 15 points! We will have new Spelling words this week, but the students have received these lists early!**

A brief note on our Spelling assignments, normally we have Spelling every week, with the week number corresponding directly to the week of the school year. Moving forward, these assignments will be titled “Weekly Spelling Practice & Test Week #Z” (where Z represents the week of the school year). These assignments will be posted in Toddle, with grades updated by the following Friday. Each student is expected to practice their

Spelling words at least 3 times in their Spelling Notebooks BEFORE their Spelling Test on Fridays (or the day of the test if adjusted). Please reach out to Ms. Bakamis directly for additional questions and clarifications.

This week in **Writing** with Mr. Scholz, we will have the highly-anticipated live “chocolate milk debate.” In three separate pairings, two teams of three will apply all their research and preparation to deliver an opening statement, rebut the opposition's claims, address criticisms of their own proposal, and end with an incisive closing statement. The most clear, cogent, and persuasive team will win, as scored by the audience. We will then reflect on the persuasive writing skills we used well and those that will need to be improved for the rest of the unit when we get to research new and challenging topics.

This week in **Math** with Ms. Bakamis & Mr. Scholz, assisted by Mr. Carson, we will start Unit 13 on Geometry. Students will learn how to use a coordinate plane, plot ordered pairs, represent problems on a coordinate plane, classify triangles by properties, recognize the properties of quadrilaterals, and classify quadrilaterals by properties. **Regardless of the math group, we expect each student to review their homework with an adult nightly and be prepared to check their answers the following day with their math groups. We continue our weekly ALEKS assignment (45 minutes and 5 topics by Sunday evening).**

Important Dates THIS week:

- Monday – PE & Library (both classes), Design (5A), Spanish (5B)
- Tuesday – Music (5A), Spanish (5B)
- Wednesday – **Mass in honor of Mother Mary and May crowning, Last Parents' Club mtg. at 7:00 pm via ZOOM**, PE & Library (both classes), Spanish (5A)
- Thursday – Music (5B), Spanish (5A)
- Friday – Music (5A & 5B), Design (5B)

Important Dates NEXT week:

- **Wednesday, May 22nd – Spring Concert for grades K-5**
- **Friday, May 24th – Fundraising Day Off (No School)**
- **Monday, May 27th – Memorial Day Holiday (No School)**
- Thursday, June 6th - 8th grade Community service project presentations for families and students
- **Friday, June 7th - 8th-grade graduation at 7:00 pm**
- **Thursday, June 13th – Field Day & Moving Up Assembly – dismissal at 12:00 pm**
- **Friday, June 14th – Last Mass of the year followed by 10:30 am dismissal**