



May 26, 2024

Monthly IB Attribute: Thinkers

“Reflecting God’s Kindness!”

“We hold these truths to be self-evident: that all men are created equal; that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights; that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.” - Thomas Jefferson

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

In **Religion** this week, we are moving towards the end of Unit 4 on “Sacraments, Our Way of Life” by concluding our lessons on the sacraments of healing and restoration, as the Reconciliation and Anointing of the Sick speak to the whole needs of the whole human person, body and spirit! As we approach the end of the year, students are learning to connect the importance of the sacramental signs with their daily lives on a broader scale. This will also prepare us for our unit on morality. **Just a reminder that all community service hours are due Friday, June 2nd!** Each student will also be writing a reflection on their community service in Toddle.

This week in **Reading** with Ms. Bakamis, we will continue our historical fiction novels where 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. While we read these books, we will be focussing on vocabulary, questions that arise, and sharing our favorite scenes. 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 (the lists will be handed out by the end of the week), but the students will have their Spelling Tests (on their words from last week) on Tuesday after we return from Memorial Day Weekend! During the following, on June 5th or 6th, students will have their final Spelling Test of the year!**

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.

In **Writing** with *Mr. Scholz* this week, we press forward with our new debate topics. Having begun researching, students are beginning to understand the argument thoroughly by identifying evidence to support each side of the issue. From here, we will write our claim statements, and “flash draft” so we are ready for the final paper **(due Wednesday, June 5th)**! The debates will be the last week of school, bringing together everything we know about “research-based arguments” to persuade the audience. The first round was great and these new topics should be a lot of fun as we close out the year. In **Grammar**, we will continue with our 15 minutes of differentiated practice on MobyMax.

This week in **Math** with *Ms. Bakamis & Mr. Scholz, assisted by Mr. Carson*, we will wrap up our Unit 13 on Geometry. We will review the lessons covering the coordinate plane and the key concepts for understanding triangles and quadrilaterals. **Bakamis and Scholz groups will have the Unit 13 test on Friday, May 31st. 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).**

This week, we will begin our **Science** unit, “Chemical Magic.” In this unit, students investigate the properties of matter by exploring how everyday chemicals dissolve to make solutions and by exploring simple yet surprising chemical reactions. Through these investigations, students begin to build conceptual models for the particulate nature of matter. This is an exciting unit to conclude our 5th grade Mystery Science journey!

Important Dates THIS week:

- **Monday – Memorial Day Holiday (No School)**
- **Tuesday – Music (5A), Spanish (5B), Spelling Practices due & Test**
- **Wednesday – Mass @ 8:45 am, PE & Library (both classes), Spanish (5A)**
- **Thursday – Music (5B), Spanish (5A)**
- **Friday – Music (5A & 5B), Design (5B)**

Important Dates NEXT week:

- **Thursday, June 6th - Community service project presentations for families and students**
- **Monday, June 10th - 8th-grade Baccalaureate Mass at 9:30 am, 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**