



Classroom Update (November)

Hello parents and guardians of Saint Therese School's 4th and 5th Grade class!

As we near the end of the month, I want to send an update on our classroom and what to look forward to in November!

I thought it might be helpful to explain my personal philosophy of education. Within this update will be a summary, but if you would like a more detailed look, I have a link on our classroom [website](#) that will provide a more in-depth explanation. I encourage you to view it in its entirety to get a better understanding of who I am as a teacher!

I believe education is about building meaningful connections between teachers and students, learning and life, and curiosity and understanding. As an elementary educator, my goal is to create a classroom where every child feels safe, valued, and motivated to explore new ideas. Learning should be an exciting journey, where students feel supported to take risks, make mistakes, and grow from them.

While mathematics has always been my strongest subject, I see it as one piece of a larger picture that includes reading, writing, science, and social studies. I want to help students see how all subjects connect and how skills like problem-solving, critical thinking, and communication can be used across disciplines. By integrating literacy into math and other subjects, I can help students build both their academic confidence and their ability to express their ideas clearly.

My ultimate goal is to inspire lifelong learners; students who are curious, creative, and compassionate. I want my classroom to be a community where every child feels seen and capable of success. Through a supportive environment and a love of learning, I hope to help my students carry forward a sense of confidence and curiosity that extends far beyond the classroom.

So, in short, I believe that education is about connection and curiosity. I strive to create a safe, engaging classroom where students feel valued and excited to learn. While math is my strength, I teach with a balanced focus across all subjects, helping students see how skills like problem-solving and communication connect their learning. My goal is to inspire lifelong learners who are confident, creative, and compassionate. I do my best for what I believe is right for the classroom.

Looking into the future:

Math:

- 4th graders will be learning about multiplying multi-digit numbers in Chapter 4 and division in Chapter 5.
- 5th graders will be learning about multiplying whole numbers in Chapter 4 and multiplying decimals in Chapter 5.
- The tests for Chapter 4 for both grades will happen either late in the first week of November or early in the second week. The tests for Chapter 5 for both grades are planned for just before Thanksgiving break.

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- 4th graders will be continuing their unit on cursive and medieval times, then transitioning into Unit 3, which focuses on poetry writing.
- 5th graders will be continuing their unit on early American civilizations, then transitioning into Unit 3, which focuses on poetry writing.

Theology

- Our themes for this month, going week by week, are Foresight, Patriotism, Magnanimity, and Patience. Our current Unit will have the lessons God Reveals Himself, Creation, The Fall of Man, Original Sin, Personal Sin, Venial, and Moral Sin.

Important Notes:

- October 27th is the end of the First Quarter.
- November 6th, report cards go home.
- November 7th is Student Uniform Holiday.
- November 12th is a half-day.
- November 22 is Purse Bingo
- November 26-27 is Thanksgiving break.

If you have any questions or concerns, you are free to write in the log for me to see the next day, or for more direct and quick feedback, you may get in contact with me via:

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Blessings and Best Wishes,

Mr. Howard