



Classroom Update

Hello parents and guardians of Saint Therese School's 4th and 5th Grade class! As we head into the final weeks before Christmas break, I wanted to share an overview of what you can expect in our classroom from **December 8th through December 19th**. This time of year brings a mix of learning, celebration, and community traditions, and I'm looking forward to a joyful finish to the semester. Below you will find several reminders and updates about upcoming school events, as well as what we will be focusing on in our curriculum.

Reminders & Upcoming Events

School Auction – Robotics Basket

Our class is helping prepare for the Saint Therese School Auction, taking place on **January 24th, 2026, at 5:00 PM**. Each classroom contributes a themed basket, and our theme this year is **“Robotics.”** If you are able, please consider sending in a small item.

Examples include:

- A small robot toy
- Robot-themed books
- STEM building kits
- Robot stickers or craft sets
- Beginner coding toys or mini “build-a-bot” sets

Every contribution—big or small—supports our school and helps make the auction a success!

Secret Santa Shop — December 8 & 9

Students will have the opportunity to shop for gifts at the Secret Santa Shop. All items are **\$2.00**, and I will send students home a handout today with some details.

Post Office

Each morning, students may purchase stamps to send “mail” within the school. Stamps are **5 cents each** or **25 cents for 6**. This is always a fun way for students to practice writing, kindness, and communication.

Shoes for St. Nicholas

Over the weekend, students' cubbies will be decorated with their “shoes” for St. Nicholas. This is a cherished school tradition that brings a little extra joy to the season.

Christmas Program — December 10

Our school Christmas Program will take place on **December 10th at 6:00 PM**. Students should arrive **15 minutes early** and report to **Mrs. Woltjer's room** before the concert begins.

Sweater Fashion Show — December 16

Students are invited to wear their festive or creative sweaters for our school's annual **Sweater Fashion Show!**

Caroling at Green Acres & Christmas Feast — December 19

On our last school day before break, students will be caroling at Green Acres and then returning for our class Christmas Feast. It is always a heartwarming way to begin the holiday season.

Curriculum Updates

Math

4th Grade:

- Fourth graders will be wrapping up their unit on division and then transitioning into lessons on factor relationships, prime and composite numbers, some introductory geometry, fractions, and equal pairs.
- **Chapter 5 Test:** Next Thursday
A helpful way to support your student is to practice multiplication tables and number pairs.
(Example: $4 \times 5 = 20$; $5 \times 4 = 20$; $20 \div 5 = 4$; $20 \div 4 = 5$)

5th Grade

- Fifth graders will take their **Chapter 5 Test on Monday**. Their work with multiplying fractions is rooted in strong multiplication fact fluency, so simple multiplication practice is an excellent way to prepare. After their test, students will move into dividing whole numbers and, later, decimals.

CKLA

4th Grade:

As many of you saw in the email from Mrs. Woltjer:

“Our fourth graders are diving into our Poetry Unit over the next couple of weeks! During this unit, we’re learning what it takes to become strong poets and exploring the important tools that help create meaningful, well-crafted poems. As a class, we’ve been reading a variety of famous poems written by well-known poets and discussing what we notice—how poems can look different, sound different, and express ideas in unique ways.

As we continue building our understanding of poetry terms and techniques, students will soon begin writing their own poems on their Chromebooks. This will also give us a great opportunity to strengthen typing skills and experiment with formatting and layout.

We will be printing each poem students create, and at the end of the unit we will compile ALL of their work into a special poetry book for them to bring home and share with you. We can't wait for you to see their creativity!

— *Mrs. Woltjer*”

5th Grade:

Fifth graders are following much of the same structure as the fourth-grade Poetry Unit. They are reading poems from well-known authors, studying literary tools that poets use, and ultimately composing their own pieces. Their work will be collected into a personal poetry journal at the end of the unit to bring home and share.

Theology

In Theology, we will be discussing the nature of Jesus and His relationship with God the Father. Our lessons will focus on the foundational beliefs that Jesus was truly God, why He came into the world, and how He redeemed us. These discussions are especially meaningful as we prepare for Christmas and reflect on the Incarnation.

As always, if you ever have questions or concerns, feel free to write in your child's log or reach out to me directly. I appreciate your continued partnership and look forward to a joyful and meaningful end to the Advent season.

Blessings and best wishes,

Mr. Howard