



# Classroom Update

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

I hope everyone is doing well as we move into the next stretch of the school year. This newsletter provides an overview of what to expect in our classroom and at the school over the upcoming weeks.

First, I would like to thank all of the parents who were able to attend Parent-Teacher Conferences last week. I truly appreciate the time you took to meet and talk about your child's progress. It was wonderful to connect with so many of you. For those who were not able to attend, I sent an email containing information about your child that would have been discussed during the conference. If you did not receive the email, have any questions about it, or would like to meet in person, please let me know!

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## **Reminders & Upcoming Events**

### **Reading Month**

March is Reading Month! As a school, we are reading *James and the Giant Peach*, along with a variety of other classic titles that will compete in a fun head-to-head book playoff. It has already been exciting to see the students getting enthusiastic about reading!

### **Teacher for a Day — March 10**

Our classroom will be welcoming a Teacher for a Day on Tuesday, March 10. Our teacher-in-training will be Victor Kuhn, who is very excited to step into the role of educator for the day!

### **Reading Buddies**

Every Tuesday, our class joins Mrs. Mele's Kindergarten class for Reading Buddies. The older students have been doing a fantastic job helping the younger students practice their reading, and both groups are having a great time together.

**Stone Soup — March 6**

Students will be participating in our Stone Soup lunch on Wednesday, March 6.

**Reading Month Color Day — March 12**

On Thursday, March 12, students are encouraged to wear peach, orange, or yellow to connect with our reading of *James and the Giant Peach*. We will also be collecting peach, orange, or yellow foods to donate to Christian Neighbors if you would like to contribute.

**No School — March 13 & March 16**

Students will have no school on Friday, March 13, and Monday, March 16.

**St. Patrick's Day — March 17**

On Tuesday, March 17, students are encouraged to wear green to celebrate Saint Patrick's Day.

**Field Trip — March 19 (\*Important\*)**

On Thursday, March 19, our school will be taking a field trip to see the butterflies at Frederik Meijer Gardens. This is always a wonderful experience for the students.

**End of the 3rd Marking Period — March 20**

Friday, March 20, marks the end of the third marking period. Students are encouraged to dress for an adventure, and we will also be collecting food that someone might bring on an adventure to donate to Christian Neighbors.

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## **Curriculum Updates**

### **Math**

**4th Grade**

Fourth graders are beginning their journey into decimals, connecting them to their previous knowledge of fractions. By building on concepts they already understand, students will begin to see how decimals represent parts of a whole in a different format.

**5th Grade**

Fifth graders have been working on comparing and estimating fractions, identifying the greatest common factor, and will soon begin learning how to multiply fractions with different denominators.

# CKLA

## 4th Grade

Fourth graders are continuing their exciting exploration of Earth science, traveling deeper into the Earth's crust as they learn about rock formations, volcanoes, tectonic plates, and the forces that shape our ever-changing planet.

## 5th Grade

Fifth graders recently completed their unit on the Renaissance, learning about many influential artists and inventors, including Leonardo da Vinci. Now they are studying the historical changes that followed this period and how they led to the Reformation in Europe.

## Theology

In Theology, students will be learning about Saint Thomas of Villanova. Through his example, we will explore questions such as:

- Who are the leaders of the Church?
- What responsibilities do they have?
- Is everyone in the Church equal?

These discussions help students better understand the structure of the Church and the ways in which we are all called to serve others.

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As always, thank you for your continued support of our classroom and school community. Please feel free to reach out if you have any questions or concerns.

Blessings and best wishes,

*Mr. Howard*