

Grade 5 Learning Update

Virtue Awards: One of our goals in Catholic Education is "Helping Children Grow Closer to Jesus." Each month, all classes focus on the same virtue, which will help our children become kinder, more loving, and more faithful.

January virtue: Courage

January Fruit of the Spirit: Self-control

Toys/Phones - Any items not required for learning are a distraction and are to be kept at home.

Fidgets - Please check with me before sending fidgets. The school can provide a variety of helpful and purposeful options to support individual learning.

Special Dates Coming Up

Jan 9 - Virtue Prayer & Awards

Jan 14 - Intermediate Ski Trip

Jan 16 - Grade 5 Mass

Jan 26 - Read-A-Thon Starts

Jan 30th - Non-Instructional Day

Feb 1 - 7 - Catholic Education Week

Feb 16 - Family Day

Feb 17 - Shrove Tuesday

Feb 18 - Ash Wednesday

Feb 25 - Pink Shirt Day

Feb 25-26 - Student-led Conferences

Communication: I cannot stress enough how important it is to reach out to me when any concerns arise. I am here to answer questions and address concerns about the classroom and your child's learning. It can also be helpful to let our team know if anything outside of school may affect your child. A move, the death of a loved one, or even a tough morning can be addressed with care and understanding by our team at Notre Dame.

Volunteers: If you would like to volunteer your time for special events or field trips (i.e., ski trip), your assistance would be greatly appreciated! Please stop by the office for a criminal record check form and a volunteer form. Note: processing criminal record checks could take up to two weeks!

Agenda: I ask that students bring their agenda home daily for parents to review and sign each night. Parents/guardians may also use it to communicate with the teacher. We will often write an "Ask me about" sentence. Please ask your child about it! It may reinforce learning, or it might be something interesting that they learned that day. It may help to engage your child in conversations about school.

Homework - Vocabulary words are sent home on Monday, and tests will be on Friday. Students are encouraged to study new concepts and word lists nightly. Any other work not completed during class time or missed due to illness or travel will be assigned for homework.

Library: Students can exchange library books every Friday.

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Behaviour Expectations: Students are given daily reminders about classroom expectations, such as listening, working, and following our class norms. Students struggling to meet these and other classroom expectations will be spoken to in private first, with reminders of natural consequences (i.e., homework) and intentional teacher-student connection. If their choices continue to disrupt their learning or others, students will be required to complete a reflection sheet to help them analyze their choices in class. The reflection sheet will be sent home for their parent/guardian to review and discuss with them. The next step will be a phone call home to discuss the issue and plan for mitigation. If the above steps fail to help the student meet expectations, then the Principal will be asked to intervene.

Prayer and Mass: Families are encouraged to attend Prayer assemblies and Mass, which are student-led events. Please arrive before the start time and remember not to bring food or drinks into the gym or church.

Term 2 Learning Update:

~ **Math** – Learning this term focuses on fractions and decimals, with students developing number sense through hands-on activities and problem solving. Financial literacy, such as money and budgeting, will also be investigated in a variety of ways. Other skills that we will learn and practice include math facts and transformations

~ **Science** – Students will investigate simple machines and apply their understanding in a culminating design challenge, where they plan, build, and test their own machines. Students will learn scientific vocabulary, such as lever, inclined plane, and wedge, by creating hands-on working models and diagrams.

~ **English Language Arts** – Students are building their reading and writing skills by exploring a variety of texts (i.e., poetry, mystery, informational, and short stories). They are learning about form, function, genre, and point of view, and using reading strategies such as making connections and thinking critically to better understand what they read. In writing, students are planning and writing short multi-paragraph pieces, learning how to organize ideas clearly and support them with details.

~ **Social Studies** – Students will examine Canadian immigration and multiculturalism, while also learning about the historical treatment of minority peoples. Students will build empathy and a deeper understanding of Canada's past and present by taking different perspectives and making ethical judgments of past events.

~ **Career Education** – Students will continue to develop leadership and teamwork skills while doing comprehensive classroom jobs. They will study the effects of good work habits and goal setting.

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~ **Arts Education** - This term, students will explore dramatic forms through pantomime, improvisation, the use of props and monologues. Students will study some contemporary stories and characters as well as classic fairy tales to learn about using movement and expression to communicate ideas and emotions.

~ **ADST** - Students will engage in a variety of design opportunities through STEM challenges and Science inquiries.

Warm Regards,

Mrs. Shannon McKenzie

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📱 SpacesEDU App

OUR GRADE 5 CLASS NORMS

Together, we created agreements to guide our classroom community. These norms help us live out respect in all we do.

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| Catholic Virtues <ul style="list-style-type: none">• We show kindness, patience, and forgiveness.• We include others and treat everyone with dignity.• We practice gratitude and prayer. | Friendship <ul style="list-style-type: none">• We speak kindly to and about others.• We listen and care when someone shares.• We stand up for one another. |
| Learning <ul style="list-style-type: none">• We stay curious and try our best.• We listen when others are speaking.• We help each other grow. | Clean & Organized <ul style="list-style-type: none">• We take care of our classroom and supplies.• We clean up after ourselves.• We keep our spaces ready for learning. |

Our Promise
We agree to follow these norms so our classroom can be safe, joyful, and full of respect.

Student Signatures: _____



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