

St. Francis Xavier School

Grade Seven

APRIL 2017



Religion:

In March, we learned about the 7 Gifts and Fruits of the Holy Spirit. At the Confirmation retreat, the students were placed in groups and were assigned a

scenario. Each group used their scenario to create a skit that reflected their understanding of the Gifts of the Spirit. Students included examples of the Gifts of the Holy Spirit in their own

lives. In April, the students will continue to study the corporal and spiritual works of mercy.

Language Arts:

In April, we will continue to work on our short stories. The students will participate in writing workshops three times a week. They will learn approaches to writing that will allow them to effectively evaluate and improve their own writing and thinking.

Every workshop will include a mini-lesson and independent writing sessions. During our writing sessions, I will circulate among writers and meet with individuals or small groups. As students participate in group writing conferences, they will share problems they are having as writers and determine solutions to their writ-

ing problems. Students will use examples of outstanding writing to assist in identifying and evaluating solutions.

We will have opportunities for students to share their written work in progress and receive constructive feedback.

Important Dates:

- Tuesday, 11th—7K Fieldtrip to the MOV
- Thursday, 13th—Holy Thursday—Noon Dismissal
- Friday, 14th—Good Friday—No School
- Saturday, 15th—Holy Saturday
- Sunday, 16th—Easter Sunday
- Monday, 17th—Easter Monday—No School
- Tuesday, 25th—7M Fieldtrip to the MOV
- Friday, 28th—Pro-D Day—No School

April Birthdays:

Jordan Woo	1st
Cheryl Hu	6th
Kenny Situ	7th
Keira Cheng	17th
Lauren Tam	19th
Leo Liu	28th

Math:

After the two very busy months of February and March, we are looking forward to April to get back into our academic routine and work hard through the last stretch of the school year. The Grade Sevens concluded the month of March by continuing to learn about solving one and two-step equations. April will be spent finishing Algebra and beginning Coordinates and Design. Students will learn how to identify and plot points in the four quadrants of a Cartesian plane using ordered pairs as well as how to perform and describe transformations of 2-D shapes. The transformations will include translations, rotations, and reflections. This is just a reminder to parents and students that the language component of math is important and may take extra practice to master, so please do not hesitate to ask for help!

Science:

The month of March flew by (like most months!); hopefully April will see us find our routines again and allow us to focus on some interesting science work. Last month was spent focusing on learning how Earth's tectonic plates fit together like a giant puzzle. We will conclude this chapter during the month of April. To finish off the Unit on Earth's Crust, both classes will learn about how Earth's plates move and create changes to Earth's Crust. In addition to this, 8 students (two from Grade 6) have competed for spots to participate in this year's Science Challenge. These students will be getting together several times a week in preparation for the challenge which takes place on May the 12th at UBC.

Social Studies:

In March students used multiple sources to locate and record accurate background information on 7 aspects of their assigned civilization:

- Geography
- Daily Life
- Architecture
- Government
- Advanced technology
- Culture
- Record keeping

Currently, the students are working on developing reasons based on their research. They will prepare an argument explaining why their assigned civilization is "rich." Once students have prepared their individual report, they will work in groups to create an engaging and informative presentation that persuades their classmates to accept their conclusion. Students will include paragraphs, pictures, graphs, charts or any other tools that will help to demonstrate their mastery of the subject matter and the wisdom of their decision.

