

Mrs. Wilson's Fourth Grade Newsletter

Volume 15 Issue 16

206.935.0651 X110, or cwilson@guadalupe-school.org

January 4, 2020

What's in a Name?

Last month fourth graders began their study of Native Tribes of the Pacific Northwest. As we use our textbooks we will discover two new terms: Paleo Indian and Ancient Ones. Fourth graders will learn that both terms refer to the first inhabitants of what is now our home. Paleo Indian is the scientific term while Ancient One is the term used by native tribes to show respect for their ancestors.

Today, several different words are used for the first people here, including Indian, American Indian, or Native American. When we know the exact tribe we are referring to we use tribal names, such as Duwamish. For the purposes of our study we will refer to Native Tribes of the Pacific Northwest in two categories, Coastal Tribes and Plateau Tribes. Yes, those Cascade Mountains marked very different lifestyles. Our study helps us investigate the influence of geography on the history of the Pacific Northwest.

Math:

This week we begin dividing larger numbers. We'll approach this task using a Math In Focus method that helps students visualize division with dots on a place value chart. Don't worry, we do this alongside the traditional step by step process you and I remember from fourth grade. Long division takes time, practice and patience. Fourth graders complete math problems (both multiplication of larger numbers and starting this week, dividing larger numbers) in our 8:30 AM full class zooms. Direct instruction also happens through videos where I can be paused, slowed down, repeated and sped up. Please make sure your fourth grader watches the math videos each day. The material we cover this week is vital. Following most videos is a paper/pencil assignment. If things are not clear, students should attend Ms. Lawler's smaller math group, Monday-Thursday. Whole group zooms, videos, paper and pencil work, small group zooms... hitting this from multiple perspectives. Great times ahead.

Religion:

Fourth graders spend much of the year learning how to approach moral decisions (deciding what is right or wrong). The church teaches the 10 Commandments are key to developing our understanding of morality. Most folks think they know the 10 Commandments but when asked, can't name them all. Can you? In the weeks ahead, fourth graders and I will work toward understanding and memorizing all 10. As with all controversial topics (and believe it or not, the 10 Commandments are tricky), I'll encourage students to speak with you as to how your family responds to this church teaching and scripture.

The 10 Commandments (Decalogue)

- I) I am the LORD your God: you shall not have strange gods before me.
- II) You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain.
- III) Remember to keep holy the LORD's Day.
- IV) Honor your father and your mother.
- V) You shall not kill.
- VI) You shall not commit adultery.
- VII) You shall not steal.
- VIII) You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.
- IX) You shall not covet your neighbor's wife.
- X) You shall not covet your neighbor's goods.

Dates to Remember:

Monday, 1-4-2021: Back to Class!

Thursday, 1-14-2021: All School Mass led by the 8th grade

Sunday, 1-31-2021: Open House, Catholic Schools Week.