

## 4B Flight Update for the Week of January 11, 2019

This month's Catholic Virtue is Kindness. This month's Gospel Value is Service.



*Never get tired of doing little things for others, sometimes those little things occupy the biggest parts of their hearts!*

*Loving God, inspire us to serve all around us in the love of Christ. We all need help from time to time and it gives us hope to know that others around us care.*

*Show us how to reach out to those we see struggling or who are in trouble. Amen.*

*As we continue our journey of love, delivered to the world in all its beauty and magnificence; I wish you a Blessed New Year!*



*Like the Magi, may we always seek and follow the light of our Savior.*

*God, thank you for a new year. May everyone in our family and community be willing to begin anew with a clean slate. We know that you are always ready to forgive us. Help us to be willing to forgive ourselves and to forgive one another.*

*As we begin a new year, remind us of our truest values and our deepest desires. Help us to live in the goodness that comes from doing what you want us to do. Help us to put aside anxiety about the future and the past, so that we might live in peace with you now, one day at a time. Amen.*

### Calendar Updates and Reminders:

Jan. 21—No School—Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

Jan. 27—Open House and the beginning of Catholic Schools Week!

Jan. 28—Spirit Day! Wear Red and White; Assembly

Dear 4B Families,

Wishing you a Happy New Year and many blessings to you and your family in 2019! Welcome back as we continue on our Christmas journey and turn from the preparations we made in early December to the story of our Savior's birth in all its glory! The children and I shared such a wonderful Advent season filled with so much of the hope, peace, joy, and love of the season. I feel truly blessed, as their teacher, to have shared so many different ways of preparing ourselves for Jesus and as I do each day, to have learned from them. I look forward as we continue on with our lessons of Christmas and of course the visit of the Magi.

My heartfelt thanks goes out to all of you! I want to start by saying how humbled and touched I was by the outpouring of love from the children and all of you! My tradition has always been to open my school gifts on Christmas afternoon and as I do I share with my family little stories of each of the givers, my extended family!! Nothing goes unnoticed, the purple things, the Charlie Brown connections, the connection to our classroom themes, and the things that I will use each day, display on my desk or in my home, things I will wear with a smile, and of course the ornaments and decorations that I will take out each Christmas season from now on, and remember the year shared with that student! The yummy treats, I did share and so each of the children were a part of my Christmas celebration! I am also so grateful for the time we had during Advent; their selfless acts of kindness and caring through being the family we have grown to be; the decorating of the Knights of Columbus tree; fun decorating of gingerbread houses with our buddies; the beautiful voices that sent joy through the church at the concert; the mass they lead; and of course the joy they filled the classroom with the whole season! These are priceless memories that continue to mark our year together!

I don't know if they were looking forward to, or were excited about getting back into our daily routines, but the bell did ring and they boarded our flight and we have taken off into the New Year! We are ready to soar in 2019 and the second half of our year; and what a second half it will be as we pack many activities and events into these upcoming months!

We have been enjoying so many activities since we returned; and even after a long break, the children came back prepared to work! I am so proud of their efforts and achievements! Poppy has been a very welcome addition to our classroom family; and when we read each day, they beg, and usually win, to go one more chapter! They have been working in their reading groups to work with their close reading skills; and we have grouped based on owls, deer mice, and porcupines. We are using the animals in the story to do cross curricular work with science. To extend our work in other subjects and have opportunities to work at our pace, we are using station rotation twice a week for ELA and Math. The groups rotate between independent paced work with programs on the chromebooks, mastery challenge work, practice/application work including written and hands on options, and instruction with me. Upon our return they also found that they love the challenge of working with PEMDAS (Please Excuse My Dear Aunt Sally) with our order of operations in math. Those are just a few highlights; but again, I am very proud of all they've accomplished this first full week back!

I want to again thank you for all your kindness during the season and for remembering me in so many ways throughout the season! I indeed feel very blessed and loved by our fourth graders and their families! Thank you for sharing the season and Christmas joy with me!

Wishing you and your family health, happiness, and peace in 2019!

Warm Regards,  
Mrs. B

**Destination: ELA**

We will continue on with our adventures with Poppy as we approach even more edge of our seat events! The children are meeting new characters along the way and especially watching Poppy evolve from a timid little mouse to a brave and courageous member of her family; willing to do what is needed to protect them!

For now, our spelling is on a Tuesday rotation for tests. After the end of the quarter we will get back to our regular Friday tests.

**Destination: MATH**

We are combining our work with in/out boxes and order of operations and once we test on these skills, we will be moving to fractions during the upcoming week.

**Destination: RELIGION**

We will be returning to our lessons about the Commandments; and in a few weeks we will begin preparing for our lessons of Lent and Easter.

**Destination: SCIENCE**

Our novel is providing opportunities to do cross curricular work with our current unit on the ecosystem. We will have several makerspace activities set up to create and solve problems related to both the ecosystem and Poppy.

**Destination: SOCIAL STUDIES and WRITING with Mrs. Damalas**

Writing – We have been focusing on finishing our opinion writing. We have started teacher editing and we should be done in the next week or so. Parents, please send in a Composition Notebook with your student so we can continue our prompt writing at home. Thank You for your help and support. Thanks to those who have sent the notebook in!

Grammar – We have worked on common and proper nouns. Next we will work on singular and plural nouns. Please ask you student and check on Rediker for test date.

Social Studies – We have taken the test on the 3 branches of government. Next we will be learning about the US Economy. We have also started talking about and working on our State Project. More information will follow on this project and what is required.