

Grade Weekly Communication Newsletter April 27-May 1

Spring has sprung and students are celebrating the joys of the 50 days of Easter!

First Graders are teaming up with friends in Second Grade to assist with the Masses. They will read the Prayers of the Faithful, assist as greeters offering worship aids and holy water. It takes a lot of courage to participate in the Mass in this way. Look for opportunities to serve together in your church. For instance, the Church of St. Therese will be making me packets for a Stop Hunger Event on May 16 from 1-3 p.m. Visit their website and sign-up. Children need to be 5 and older in order to participate. These First Graders are awesome and so willing to share their love for God.

First Grade is working hard on many skills: compound words, contractions, pronouns, nouns, verbs and adjectives. Daily maintenance and application make skills and concepts permanent. There is a treasure trove of fun songs on Youtube to reinforce these concepts and skills. The class will apply the 6+1 Traits of Writing to research papers on the topic of their favorite animals. To encourage hard work and to provide a keepsake of First Grade, students will create a stuffed reading buddy from pattern to product. It's amazing how these animals come to life and remind First Graders that they ALWAYS have someone to read to. In the week ahead, we will also prepare for a field trip to the Learning Barge. Students will learn about going green and making the Elizabeth River clean. Their presence and performance is also requested by Province Place on this day. Students will bring lots of smiles to the faces of our Province Place friends who have listened to them read weekly this entire year.

Our PP volunteers really want all of the residents to experience the joy of PCRS Grade 1!

In Math this week the students will be measuring length with inches and feet. They will practice using rulers to find the length. The students will also explore finding capacity using cups, pints, and quarts. This is challenging, especially when converting cups to pints, pints to cups, etc. Please practice these skills on IXL. During Science, the students will be identifying parts and functions of the respiratory, circulatory, and nervous systems in the human body. We will review skeletal, muscular, and digestive systems, before beginning our insect investigation. The students will be watching the life cycle of the butterfly in action with our new class pets--- caterpillars, which just arrived!

In Art, First Graders will complete NASA Contest entries. All entries must be accompanied by a permission form. They will also begin a new unit on the artist Jackson Pollock. They will discuss his artwork and view sample pieces. In Spanish, students will continue to explore the family names as they continue to build vocabulary. In PE, students will continue to prepare for Race For Education. They will also be asked to demonstrate their progress by performing a variety of

skills checks by participating in the game of "Four Square" and long and short rope jumping. In Music students will continue to work on the Peace Chant and Our God for the Benefit Breakfast on May 14, 2015 from 7:45-8:15 Breakfast treats 8:15-9:15 a.m. A presentation of PK3-Great 8 performances and PCRS alumna speaker follow. If you know anyone who would like to come and support our school, this is a great opportunity to get a glimpse at the treasures we hold here. An RSVP is requested. Monetary donations of all amounts great and small would be greatly appreciated.