



Newsletter February 25-28, 2014

First Grade is going all patriotic with special focus on states, songs, landmarks, presidents, famous Americans and more. Students will be presenting their state floats on Friday, February 28. We can't wait to learn all about the USA!

First Graders are using their letter writing skills, knowledge of conventions, topic, ideas and word choice to write a Catholic School and their First Grade class somewhere in the USA. Your child will be bringing home a letter addressed to this special penpal. Please place a stamp on it and mail as soon as possible. Let's try to get as many responses as possible. The more schools we hear from...the more we learn. In Religion, students will begin preparing for the Lenten season, which begins March 5. They are learning about Jesus as a man and the wonderful miracles he performed while on this Earth and continues to perform in our lives every day. We believe in miracles! In Writing, First Graders should be properly using conventions of capitals and punctuation along with neatness and proper spacing of words. They have learned about topics and generating related ideas. Currently, we are learning about word choice, synonyms, opposites, nouns, verbs and adjectives. Keep writing! In addition, students continue to grow as independent readers in First Grade. Please follow the procedure for utilizing the awesome Reading Counts program at home. Your child is using it at school and should able to show you the way. Usernames and Passwords are recorded in homework book as convenient reminders. Please make sure quizzes are taken on supplementary reading books from your home, school or local library and not from the blue and pink books. In PE students will be assessed on skills learned thus far. In Music, students will continue to explore the song game "Round De Doo Bop" and add a section B to the form. They will continue to work on Peace Songs. Please sing them at home and remember to ALWAYS return the Read to Sing and Sing to Read books daily.

Progress reports will be released on Thursday. Please note that Mrs. Taylor and Ms. Henry must hold students to First Grade standards in all areas as they prepare to move along in their schooling years. We can not treat nor grade them as if they were just moving over from Kindergarten. It is important to note that incomplete classwork, homework, projects, etc. will adversely effect

grades. Unfortunately, students are learning the hard lesson that giving nothing yields nothing in terms of learning result and grade. They are encouraged to show it if they know it and to utilize sound study habits as best as a First Grader could and should at this point of their development. Thank you for your help in this matter. Remember we learn what we learn not for a day but for a lifetime!