

HAPPY NEW YEAR 1/2 - 1/10/2014

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HAPPY NEW YEAR!

MAY YOU AND YOUR FAMILY BE BLESSED WITH ALL THAT MAKES YOU HAPPIEST!

Let's get off on the right foot in 2014!

Students will be discussing resolutions, making things new with forgiveness, and making peace in our Religion and Social Studies units. At home, please celebrate peaceful problem solving among family members and neighboring friends. Choose peace. First grade will be working on peace tales, peace songs, and peaceful conflict resolution skills. A Peace Prayer Service will culminate the unit. We are one family...God's family. As a culmination to our peace study, we hope to hold a peace prayer breakfast towards the end of January or mid-February. We will keep you posted.

This week, First Grade will review previous word study words and begin new ones. Focus will be on beginning and ending blends such as sl, sm, st, tr, dr, gr, nd, ng, etc. Please check your child's word study notebook for words in the baggie in the back. Please do not glue. They are for your use everyday to complete the following activities.

Daily Word Sort Homework

Monday - Sort. Read. Check. Reflect. Why did you sort them this way?

Tuesday - Speed Sort. Sort three times. What did the clock say? What was your fastest speed. Record in the notebook.

Wednesday - Choose 4 favorite words. Divide the page into fourths. Write one word in each box. Illustrate. Write your best sentence using correct capitals and punctuation.

Thursday - Move and spell. Clap and Spell...jump and spell...blink and spell...snap and spell...twist and spell...nod and spell...etc. Parents call out words in mixed order. Ask your child to write and sort accordingly. For example... If the word does not fit a category, it should go into the oddball section. Write this exercise in your notebook. Check. Correct.

cat	ran	oddball
at	Stan	best

The DSA (Developmental Spelling Assessment) will be re-administered to determine progress from the beginning of the year and proper placement. Please reserve 10 minutes a night to consistently complete the above tasks on the days indicated. It will greatly support classroom instruction.

Looking ahead...First Grade students will begin working on fairytales and a Reader Theater's spoof. Each student will have a part. Lines do not have to be memorized. Simple costumes are encouraged. Fluency, expression, and comprehension are daily goals. Your child is engaged in the Reading Daily 5 every day...Listen to story read; read to self; read to friend; read to teacher; write. In Spanish, students will continue with "la familia." In PE students are working on cooperative games and preparing for the Presidential Fitness Test.

Catholic Schools Week is fast approaching. Would you and your child(ren) be interested in speaking after Mass at our local parishes. If so, please look for the sign-up sheet in the next few days. A simple enthusiastic speech will be provided. Families are encouraged to remain after Mass, pass out treats and promote PCRS. Students are asked to wear uniforms to keep PCRS clearly visible. Also, students will be asked to create a family crest or coat of arms. Be thinking about what makes your family unique. A set of directions and rubric will be provided for the entire school. Only one crest is required per family. However, each family member should be able to explain the components of the crest. Look for details in Thursday's communication envelope.