



First Grade Weekly Communication Newsletter March 29-April 2

First Grade and the entire PCRS faith community enters into Holy Week with greater offering of prayer, sacrifice and alms. First Grade is researching Habitat For Humanity in literature and online resources in Religion and Social Studies. They are identifying the value of this organization locally and globally. Through their studies, not only are they discovering their ability to help change the world with their own two hands, but they are also building their vocabularies, gaining a sense of what it takes to build and maintain a house and make it a home, and recognizing shelter as a basic need and how the HFH organization makes housing possible for the poor. Perhaps a difficult concept to understand is that HFH gives a hand up, not a hand out and the owners must put in many hours of 'sweat equity.' First grade prays for those in need and thanks God for the blessings of their homes and the tremendous love and abundance within them. First Grade has integrated the study of Holy Week and service learning across the curriculum. They will read about it, write about it, sing, create, discuss and more to respond to the week leading up to the holiest day of our Church...Easter. Please join PCRS for the Living Stations of The Cross on Holy Thursday at 2:15 in the gym. It is indeed a very powerful prayerful time.

Our hearts and minds will focus on Jesus, Lent and Easter this week. There are so many opportunities to explore our faith through numerous learning activities. We will continue to build essential skills for comprehension. Students will visualize, summarize, sequence, and interpret what is read or heard. They will utilize graphic organizers to dissect specific aspects of their reading and listening adventures. Cooperative learning opportunities will allow them to discuss ideas, share opinions, and clarify or defend answers that may differ from one another.

In Spanish students, will identify animals and their sounds. Did you know that even animal sounds in Spanish can be different from those we know in English? Ask you child to demonstrate. You will be surprised. In PE students will explore a variety of

tumbling and motor skill activities with a focus on balance and flexibility. The Race For Education will soon be here. First grade continues to build up endurance with an 8 minute walk/run. Over the Easter break, you may want to enjoy lots of walks together to keep up the momentum.