

Newsletter March 3-7, 2014

Hello First Grade Family!

Happy March!

Thanks so much for the amazing floats. The students are teaching us so much about our wonderful country, people and events. Thank you for making this experience possible.

In March, we will have an exciting evening of Science. On March 19, it is our annual Science Fair. All students PK3-Grade 8 participate. First Graders traditionally participate with a Surprise Science Arts project. They randomly select a science concept which is taught through art. They will then greet the class in a lab coat and goggles and act like Bill Nye the Science Guy or Jill Nye the Science Gal and teach us about their experiment and its results.

On Monday, students will bring home the directions to their project. Please let me know if there is anything I can do to support you in this endeavor.

In Religion, we will be learning about the Lenten season and Jesus' great love for us. We will talk about what it means to sacrifice, pray more and give alms. Please remember the great need for adult diapers requested by the Cluster parishes. This would make a great offertory gift on our school Mass, Thursday, March 6 at 10:00 a.m. with Fr. Brian. Perhaps your child would like to earn a pack of diapers or sacrifice a happy meal or two in order to participate. You will make someone feel loved, happier and healthier. We will also pray the Stations of the Cross every Friday. Please come pray with us this Friday at 8:05 in the main hallway.

In Social Studies and Religion, First Graders will be preparing for a Peace Prayer Breakfast. They will be singing songs of love and peace, leading prayers and serving breakfast to guests from our community. We will need your help to make this possible. Please be on the look out for a signup sheet on Monday. On this day, we will put all of our plans on paper including what to serve. The event will be held on St. Patrick's Day, Monday, March 17, from 10:00-11:00 a.m. Mrs. Smith is helping to add a "Peace Round" with Orff instruments in music. Hopefully, this will be a memorable, peace-inspiring, prayerful time for all who attend. In Spanish, students will learn how to identify Osito's friends (Little Bear) and color them as directed. In PE students will be involved in cooperative games, relays and tag.

In Reading, students continue to identify story elements such as title, author, illustrator, setting, characters, problem and solution for stories they read. As students read, they make predictions, visualize events and predict outcomes. Please be sure to utilize the comprehension questions provided to you in the September through December logs. They are invaluable tools for promoting understanding and higher level thinking skills. Students have their usernames and passwords for Reading Counts in their homework books. I encourage to use this great tool for foster independence and success as a critical reader.

In Writing, we continue to exercise our skills in conventions such as

punctuation, capitalization, subject and verb agreement, spacing and legibility. Attention is given to sticking to a topic with pertinent ideas. Incorporating interesting word choices is encouraged. Wow. How First Grade has grown as authors.

All students will be treated to the Dress Rehearsal Performance of Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory. Don't miss it!!!! It will be showing on Friday and Saturday this weekend.