

First Grade Weekly Communication May 11-15

First Grade is blossoming all over in faith, knowledge and service. The field trip to our friends at Province Place was exciting and memorable. Residents joined in singing patriotic songs. We were blessed to meet a resident who is 109 years old! We thank God for our friends at Province Place, who visit First Grade every Tuesday to listen to students read. Read! Read! Read! Succeed! It was also a successful trip to the Learning Barge. Students were quick with answers, filled with curiosity, engaged in activities and happy to experience such a fun learning adventure. The Elizabeth River critters station was a favorite. Students saw the cleansing effect of oysters on the river. They took a bucket of oysters, sequenced them from shortest to longest based on observation and then measured them with a ruler to confirm lengths. Afterwards, First Grade headed to the Virginia Zoo park for lunch and play. It's always a blessing to be together! So much so, that everyone wanted to know, "Where are we going next?" School! Sweet! School!

Race For Education was another great time as the whole school gathered to walk/run, enjoy God's creation and raise money to support our school. Thank you for your generosity!

This week our school is taking a stand against bullying. Bullying ends with me! Everyone needs to accept responsibility for creating peace and harmony.

May is the month we honor Mary, our Blessed Mother. Like the rest of their schoolmates, First Grade will take a turn leading the Rosary over the intercom, participate in the May Procession and honor Mary with fresh flowers. Spiritual bouquets of Hail Mary's will be made for members of the school community in need of prayer. First Grade will also sing with the rest of PCRS at the Benefit Breakfast on Thursday, May 14 at 8:00 a.m. -9:00 a.m. If you know anyone in your parish, neighborhood, work place, or community, who would like to attend and support PCRS, please call the office at 488-6744. We can't wait to sing for them!

The end of the year is so quickly approaching yet learning is ongoing and lifelong. First Grade will be working on types of sentences, pre-fixes and suffixes, and writing advertisements. In fact, we will be teaching PCRS about giving to Horizons of Hampton Roads, which our school hosts every summer for economically challenged families in Portsmouth. We are going to celebrate and contribute on May 20, 2015. View their website <http://horizonshamptonroads.org>.

In Math, the students will wrap up their study of measurement. We will compare

and contrast kilograms and pounds as standard units of measurement for weight. The students will review all the measurement tools we have used and match them with things that need to be measured. Finally, students will learn about finding the basic area of a shape by using squares to count the space within a shape. First Grade will show their mastery of measurement when they complete their Chapter Nine Math test on Friday, May 15.

During Science, we are waiting patiently for our butterflies to arrive. Right now they are chrysalides. The students will identify facts about insects, as well as the life cycles that some insects go through.



Resource classes are supporting classroom and school life in so many ways. In PE, students will engage in relay and tag games. Running and walking skills and stamina were evident in the Race For Education. In Spanish, First Graders continue to learn vocabulary for family members. In Art, the NASA contest entries have been mailed. This week students will return to their previously begun projects - contour line collages so they can practice fine motor skills such as cutting, while learning about and reinforcing pattern. In Music, students are preparing for the Benefit Breakfast and classroom end of the year show, "God Bless America and God Bless You!" They are learning sign language to "Our God" and "One Voice." They are also performing "The Peace Round." First graders voted for the patriotic theme over 15 others to showcase their learning and growth this year as well as their respect, appreciation and loyalty to our country.