

# First Grade Communication Newsletter

## November 3-7



*Happy All Saints and All Souls Day. First Grade is learning about the Holy Heroes designated by the Church as Saints and those living who have a saintly impact on others today. All are excited about the Parade of Saints at Mass on November 5 at 10:00 a.m. Students will dress as saints, share information about their saints and how the lives of their saints impact their lives. Saints model the love of Jesus for us. They illustrate what it means to be a Christian, a disciple, a true follower of Jesus. Students will take a closer look at living in the past and present in relation to the First Thanksgiving. They will explore history and be challenged to bring its lessons to our modern day living and celebration. Map skills, comparisons of past and present, traditions, religious freedom, and a understanding of relationships and cultures involving the Pilgrims and Native Americans will be experienced through literature, song, art and SMARTboard technology. Students will begin to prepare for the culmination of a Thanksgiving unit with the annual Powwow in Pre-K3 through Grade 5.*

*First Grade will continue learning about the Holy Heroes in the Bible, Sainthood and the Saints-in-*

*the-Making around us. Research will culminate in Holy Heroes in the Bible cookies. Students will choose a favorite hero, decorate a cookie in his/her likeness and enjoy. Students are learning what it means to be a follower of Jesus, learn and live His Word and evangelize.*

*First Grade continues to differentiate between fictional and nonfictional literature. Animals and habitats will be studied and identified in selected works. Students will learn more about Smokey The Bear and the responsibility for caring for our environment like our dear St. Francis. After studying Smokey the Bear and his message for all citizens and caretakers of the Earth, students will create a poster for the Smokey The Bear art contest sponsored by the local women's club. Wish us luck! In the 6+1 Traits of writing, students will continue to use conventions or the rules of writing. They will stick to and develop a topic by utilizing lots of juicy details. The next trait will be word choice. First Graders will build their vocabulary, explore synonyms, antonyms and learn to use the dictionary. Wow! Knowing how to place words in alphabetical order really does come in handy.*

*Resource teachers continue to enrich our learning in many areas and ways. In PE students will jump rope. They will practice jumping and landing as they maneuver over high and low objects. They will also work on improving their throwing and catching skills of small balls and beanbags. They will also review the skeletal system in Health Class. Are skeletons real? You betcha! We need them to move otherwise we would be like jellyfish. In Art,*

*students will continue to study the work of famous artists and add to their book. The artwork sent home for Original Works was phenomenal. Best peacocks ever! In Spanish, students will continue to learn about the vowels and pray in Spanish. Music and movement are always incorporated into the paper/pencil and conversational activities. In Music, students will rehearse their songs for upcoming Masses as well as the Powwow. Finally, in Technology, students will work on keyboarding skills and type a family prayer for Thanksgiving day using their last names. This acrostic exercise will make for a memorable keepsake.*