



First Grade is hopping into many awesome areas of study. For instance we are sharing tadpoles and frogs with our Third Grade friends and observing the metamorphosis up close and personal. Students have enjoyed frogs in fiction and non-fiction, music, art, technology and more. Ask your child to tell you about "Tagxedo." Frog vocabulary words were inserted into a heart

shape. Yes, we  frogs!!! Now, we are moving onto another animal class that is often confused with amphibians...REPTILES. You should see the menagerie of snakes in our classroom tree! We encountered the snake in the Story of Adam and Eve. We know that God loves us no matter what but we will try all our days to make good choices. The week ahead will be filled with many other exiting learning experiences in resource classes as well. Ms. Patty will be teaching Food Groups and Nutrition in Health. Senora Johnson will work on numbers 1-30 in Spanish using the SMART Board, games and music. In Art, First Graders will experiment with symmetry. In Tech, Mr. Baker and Ms. Henry will assist the students on another amphibian webquest. This time they will not only use their eyes and ears, but they will use their brains to the max to complete a mini-research page. Ms. Riggins will continue to rehearse students in liturgical music. They will also listen, identify and explore the steady beat in music selections.

Monday - Just in case you forgot your amphibian Show-N-Tell, no worries. We will try to share on Monday. Friday was so jam-packed with learning fun that we ran out of time. Today we begin Word Study. Students will have a packet of words at school for activities. They will also take home a sheet of words that should be cut, stored in a baggie and used throughout the week at home. THIS IS VERY IMPORTANT! Please see the HW announcement for

a weekly schedule of word work fun. We are working for accuracy and automaticity.

Tuesday- Today students will speed sort and treasure hunt word study words in favorite literature. The challenge is to find the words provided and discover new ones that can be added to the list. In Reading and Social Studies, we will explore hats...hats around the world, their purposes for fun, protection, safety, career, etc.

Wednesday-Library books will be checked out today for 1 week. Please return or renew by next Wednesday. Mr. Baker and I will be talking about Reading Counts. Students in First Grade should be taking quizzes independently on just right books by January. This means once they have down the online testing procedure, testing strategies, vocabulary, and fluency, they should be able to demonstrate comprehension. You can certainly work on this at home if you wish. If your child wants to take a quiz at school, please be sure they can do it without much assistance. All students will be asked to take quizzes on stories from their readers online as well as in paper/pencil format. A pre-test will be given. If students get 100%, they will be using the text or related stories in a way that best suits their own reading ability. For those who fare less than 100, they will be taught the components of vocabulary, fluency, comprehension, writing, etc. for the story and then given the chance to demonstrate mastery afterwards. Mastery is the objective. Words in the yellow "Words To Know" box must definitely be easily recognized to facilitate the reading process. The application of phonics, word knowledge and sight vocabulary will build solid, life-long readers.

Thursday - MASS DAY with Fr. Brian at 10:00 a.m. Please wear the church uniform. Family and friends are invited to join us. We will be making cards for Brother Angelo who just became a Franciscan monk in NY. He and his brothers sometimes go on Jesus' runs, in which they feed the hungry. Would your family like to make a Jesus run and help someone in need? Fr. Brian, our PCRS Chaplain, will be visiting our classroom.

Friday - Crazy Hat Day. Wear your favorite hat. Feel free to decorate one (please avoid balloons due to latex allergies). Do you have any books at home about hats? Please feel free to bring them in to share. Also we will be exploring the 6 +1 Traits of Writing and focusing on conventions...the capitals at the beginning of sentences and the punctuation at the end. Look for literature in the HW book to get all of the details about this wonderful writing program being utilized in Grades PK-8. Hats Off To A Great Start!

 HAPPY BIRTHDAY BLESSED MOTHER ON SEPT. 8. Celebrate by praying the Hail Mary together...maybe cupcakes or cookies with blue and white icing? Hug your Mom and say a prayer of thanksgiving for her. 