

A Message from the Principal...Mrs. Bland

Pet Blessing – I would like to thank Miss Bernhard and her 4th grade class for the Prayer Service that was held in the gym prior to meeting up with our pets on the playground this past Tuesday. I would also like to thank Deacon Don for blessing each and every pet. We were especially thankful to God for such a beautiful day.

No School - I don't think any of the students need this reminder, but just in case, there will be no school tomorrow, October 7. Teachers, on the other hand, do not get a day off, they will be attending a Catechetical Institute at Lewis University in Romeoville. We will be celebrating Columbus Day with no school on October 10. Enjoy the four day weekend with your children.

School Pictures – I will send out a separate reminder on Sunday to remind you that Tuesday, October 11 is School Picture Day. This is casual or dress-up day. Please remember to wear shoes that have a back to them. For the Preschoolers who only come on Monday, Wednesday, Friday: Your picture day will be November 22. This is Picture Retake day for the rest of the school. However, you are more than welcome to bring your Monday, Wednesday, Friday preschooler in anytime between 9:00 and 11:00 on Tuesday morning to take their pictures.

Parent/Teacher Conferences – Thank you to those parents who have already returned their Parent/Teacher Conference forms. Parent/Teacher conferences will be Thursday, October 27. If you have not done so, please return your request form for a conference to the office as soon as possible.

Dates to Remember

- October 6 - Kindergarten Library Field Trip – 1:35pm
Speech Practice – 2:40-3:30 (Grades 5-8)
- October 7 - No School – Teacher's Institute
- October 10 - No School – Columbus Day
- October 11 - Picture Day
Volleyball Game @ SMI – 6:30 & 7:30
Bishop McNamara High School to visit the 7th and 8th Graders – 9:45
- October 12 - Mass – 8:10 prepared by 5th/6th Grades
SOWIC Preschool Screening - 9:00 – 12:00
Lego Club @ 2:45-3:30
- October 13 - Providence Catholic High School to visit 7th & 8th Grade
SOWIC Preschool Screening - 9:00 – 12:00
Fire Department to visit Preschool – Kindergarten
Speech Practice – 2:40-3:30 (Grades 5-8)
Volleyball Practice 3:30-5:00 Pm
Athletic Meeting – 6:00 PM
School Board Meeting – 7:00 PM

News from Preschool...Miss Montgomery

Our preschool friends have been busy at school this week. We practiced a tornado drill, talked about the letter *Dd* and made our very own pumpkins. The children really enjoy singing and dancing to "Tooty Ta". We read many stories about dinosaurs and played a game of toss the bean bag into the pumpkin. We really enjoyed going to the Pet Blessing and finding rectangles within our classroom. During our Religion time, we discussed The Sign Of The Cross and Jesus' mother, Mary. They are doing great with ordering numbers 0-5. Keep up the hard work! The children have really enjoyed playing outside this week since our weather has been beautiful. Next week we will review what we have learned so far.

*Letters- *A-D*

*Numbers - *1-4*

*Shapes- *square, circle, triangle, rectangle*

*Colors- *red, blue, green, orange*

A few reminders:

No School Friday, October 7th. Teachers will be attending a Catechetical Institute.

No School Monday, October 10th in honor of Columbus Day.

School Pictures will be taken on Tuesday, October 11th. MWF students are invited to get their picture taken on Tuesday morning. You may stop in at the front office to have your picture taken.

Sowic testing is Wednesday, October 12th and Thursday, October 13th.

Spirit Wear on Friday, October 14th.

Enjoy the long weekend!

News from First Grade.....Mrs. Vimpeny

First grade has returned to our normal routine. While it was fun to break away and do some different things during testing week, it's nice to get back to a familiar routine.

In Religion, we finished the chapter about how *God's Word Teaches Us*. Next week's chapter is called *We Give Praise to God*. We have also started our second unit in Skills for Growing. Yesterday, the students were assigned parts for our next mass which will be on October 26 (yes, already!). Please practice the readings at home.

For Reading, Phonics, and Spelling, we are learning short *o* and plural words. The targeted reading skill is author's purpose for writing. We read a phonics story the author wants us to enjoy. Then yesterday, we read an informational article to help us learn something. We learned about statements, or telling sentences in Language Arts.

We will have a math test on Tuesday covering Topic 4, Understanding subtraction. We have learned how addition and subtraction are related. If we learn the addition facts, we know subtraction facts! Our next topic will visit 5 and 10 relationships and making a table.

We finished Unit 1 in Social Studies with a test on Tuesday. We had a Science test on Chapter 1 on Wednesday.

The pet blessing on Tuesday was very nice. We were able to see some of our friends' pets. The class also got to meet Mrs. Vimpeny's dog, Dottie Lu.

A reminder that book orders are due next week. Books make great gifts. If you would ever like to order books as gifts, please let me know. I will hold your order instead of sending it with your child.

Don't forget to keep working on earning free pizza with the Book-It and Monical's Pizza reading incentive programs.

We will walk to the library on Friday, October 14. Please let me know if you will be walking with us. lvimpenystrose@gmail.com.

Enjoy this wonderful summery weather while it lasts!

News from Second Grade.....Miss Allmon

Our reading story last week was the Three Little Bikers. Finding the author's purpose and using clues to figure out the setting of a story were the comprehension skills we looked at this week. Our phonics and spelling words focused on the long e sound spelled *ee* and *ea* as well as final consonant diagraphs: *sh, ch, th, ng*. In writing we will continue to practice writing complete sentences and identifying the subject and predicate of a sentence. This week we will wrap up Unit 1 with the story The Surprise. Drawing conclusions will be our comprehension skill. Our phonics and spelling words will focus on the long *e* sound spelled *y* and the inflected ending *-ed* past tense. Students will also practice telling an original story in order, differentiate and write commands and exclamations, and will be writing paragraphs using the writing process. Next week students will be taking their Unit 1 Reading skills test. The test covers the phonics concepts of beginning, ending, middle, and the long *e* sound in words. In writing and grammar students will be assessed in identifying complete sentences. The other parts of the test cover reading comprehension and writing a paragraph including a topic sentence and wrap up sentence.

In math we have begun topic 3 on subtraction strategies. Please practice flash cards to help with basic math facts. In Religion our chapter focuses on learning that followers of Jesus are good Samaritans. They make good decisions that bring light to the world. We will write prayers to the Holy Spirit asking for help to make good decisions.

Science has been exciting. We have been continuing our unit on living and nonliving things. In our next lesson we will learn how body parts help an animal. The second graders will get a chance to experiment eating like a bird to better understand why animals have certain body parts or other adaptations.

In social studies we continue to learn about communities, maps, and directions. Our next focus is on the similarities and differences of a city, suburb, and town.

The second graders did a great job testing last week! Everyone seemed well rested and focused. Please make sure that your child remembers to bring a snack each day. I do not have any extras to hand out to children who forget. If any parent would like to donate some snacks, we would really appreciate it!

News from Third GradeMrs. Girot

I'm so excited to get back to our usual schedule this week. Last week, the students completed the IOWA standardized testing program. For many, it does prove to be a stressful week so it's great to have it behind us now.

Our class wishes Natalie VanDuyne a very Happy Birthday this week! It was wonderful to celebrate her special day with her on Wednesday. She shares her birthday with Deacon Don.

Religion: Third and fourth graders finished up chapter three in our Religion books this week. The focus of this chapter is to love thy neighbor. We discussed how our actions speak louder than words. We continue to recite the Apostles' Creed each day. The children are to continue working on this prayer at home.

Penmanship: We continue to learn new lowercase cursive letters during penmanship.

Reading: Our reading selection this week has been Allie's Basketball Dream. It's a great story about a little girl whose dream is to play professional basketball. Her determination shows us that you can never give up on your dreams. With this story, we have focused on character analysis.

Please remember to read twenty minutes a night, at least five nights a week. Keep track of those minutes on the calendars that were sent home last week. Every child that has met their goal at the end of the month earns coupons for individual pizzas at both Monical's and Pizza Hut. Happy Reading!

English: The students are identifying types of sentences as well as subjects and predicates. We will finish up Chapter 1 and take our test on this material next week.

Math: We have moved on to Topic 2 in Math. The chapter begins with explanations of strategies for using mental math. Next week, we will get into rounding to the nearest ten and hundred. We will also learn about estimating addition problems. Even though we have moved on in our books, please do continue to practice counting money at home.

Science: The third graders will be wrapping up Chapter 1 on life cycles next week. We will take our test on this chapter by the end of next week. Chapter 2 covers the life cycles of plants.

Reminder: Please be sure to sign those planners and check folders each night for important information.

Enjoy the long weekend with your families!!!

News from Fifth Grade/Jr. High Social StudiesMrs. Viano

Mrs. Mosier and I have activated Edu.Glogster accounts for all students in 5th – 8th grade. This is an online site that allows students to create posters with preloaded graphics and then they insert photos, video, and audio they get from the internet or that they have created. 5th and 8th grade have their codes and have begun using the site. 6th and 7th will get their codes soon.

We are paying to use the education portion of this site, it is totally private, the only way to see what the students create is through the student or teacher portal so what they create will never be available to a public search.

The creativity we have seen in the first couple of assignments has been amazing. I hope all of the junior high students enjoy this site.

Social Studies

Classes have begun watching videos to learn about the items in our textbooks to supplement what we are doing in class. The videos are assigned through their Discover Education portal and they will have online quizzes that are related to the videos that are located in their Engrade accounts under the More tab on the left and then Quizzes which will open to give them the active quizzes for the class. These are learning tools to help the students master the content and can be reset until the student has reached the 70% mastery level for the quiz, each time the quiz presents it is in a different order as far as questions and answer order. Please encourage your student to watch the video closely **as well as read the text** to get the full content.

5th grade

The class did great in the testing last week. Thank you for keeping everyone healthy and at school it makes as it so much easier on everyone.

The first project was assigned to the class yesterday. They have until Oct 21 to research and produce a report on a Native American tribe. They will get more information today and the requirements will be posted on the SS calendar so you can have access to the information if information is forgotten.

Enjoy your long weekend.