



Alive with the power of the Holy Spirit!

Volume 6, Issue 2

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5 Alive!

We're Off!

This is a unique bunch of kids. I have a delightfully creative, wonderfully enthusiastic, kind and gentle class. God has truly blessed my life with them this year.

We are building our community together.

The children each have a Personal Journal in which they can dialogue with me privately. I will always answer back. If your child is having difficulties that I am not aware of, whether they are socially or academically inspired, please encourage them to let me know in this very private way. I also hope to hear about good news, exciting things and ideas that they might have.

We are well into math. Our fifth graders are learning about exponents, place value before and after the decimal point, rounding numbers and solving for variables in sentences. Wow. Remember that the children are able to correct their work after I have graded it for re-grading.

This week I am making them do this, but in the future it will be their responsibility. I would rather that they correct their mistakes and really learn the information than to give a grade and move on. It is worth the time re-grading the work to make sure the information was really learned.

From Mrs. O'Hare...

Wow, my life has totally changed in just one week! I am learning all about the responsibility of a teacher; to love, support, encourage, and teach twenty-three unique children. What an awesome responsibility! I am getting to know all your children, I have even learned all there names. I have had the privilege to work one-on-one with many of them and am slowly teaching whole class lessons. Your children have been working hard on their character stories. I encourage you to sit down with your child and listen to their story. They are very excited about them, such a creative group!

God bless, Jenelle O'Hare

In Science, we have learned about roots, stems and leaves. You will see some of this important information in the study guide attached. This study guide serves as a review for an upcoming test (hint hint).

Your child will need to review this study guide every night. On Monday, they have a 10 point quiz. I am hoping that this will instill good study habits that will help them next year in Middle School. The Science test is scheduled for next Wednesday. We will spend Monday and Tuesday in review.

I am planning to have our first Stream Team event the following week on Friday, September 28th. We will walk over to Aquinas Pond to examine the habitat, the water quality and introduce terms and procedures that we will use in following events. I would love a few chaperones. Look for a permission slip next week. You can indicate whether or not you can come along on that slip.

We are beginning to study the four kinds of sentences and parts of speech this week. I suspect that this is going to be review, however this is something I cover all year long in a variety of ways. We started our first story this week as well. Look for lots of creative endeavors to come!

~ Suzi

Tests and Quizzes

Spelling Test	Fri 9/14
Spelling Pre-Test	Mon 9/17
Study Guide quiz	Mon 9/17
Science Test-lessons 1 and 2 (use packet)	Wed 9/19

Special points of interest:

- First Study Guide comes home Thursday September 13th with Newsletter. There is a 10 point quiz on this material Monday, September 17th.
- Mass Friday 9:55 am...Please feel free to join us!
- Remember to sign your child's planner every night!
- Book Orders due by Friday September 21st. Please enclose a check only...no cash. Make checks payable to Scholastic Books. You can order from any of the book clubs with one check!
- Band is Tuesdays and Thursdays at 8:15.
- Please feel free to call me with questions or concerns...
- I am planning our first Stream Team event at Aquinas Pond...tentatively set for Sept. 28th...more to come!

Want Ads

Please save and send in any Michael's coupons from the Sunday paper that you are not using.

Do you have access to building materials? I am looking for 4 sheets (4' X 8') of pink or blue foam insulation board. I have a VERY cool project that will use this. Let me know if you have access to this.

If anyone would like two lovebirds with cage and accessories, let me know (they are Hornet colors!) I am trying to find them a home for a St. Thomas family.

Do you want to be a part of our classroom ?

We would welcome the involvement of any parent/grandparent that would want to spend some time with us. Here are some ways that you can get involved:

- Come in and share some of your gifts and talents...what you do at work, what you do for a hobby etc. I will always be willing to make time for you. This enriches our children's knowledge of the outside world.
- Accompany us on field trips...more eyes and ears!
- Help with art projects. No art ability needed!
- Read with individual students for fluency practice (theirs, not yours!)
- Help with reading assessments. These are easy and quick to administer.
- Do you have access to wood, foam insulation board or other art supplies? I use foam insulation board as a lightweight canvas. If you are a builder, I will always accept scraps or pieces of this. I always do a few large projects for the auction. If you can help out with wood, or even cutting wood, let me know.
- We have Science Labs on Mondays from 10:30 until 11:15. You are invited to come if you would like. I will be doing three (possibly four) dissections in January when we study the body systems. If you want to help out, this is a really cool, really fascinating opportunity to play surgeon.
- One on one time for math help is always appreciated.

Ways to Use the Study Guide

I am hoping that the study guide will keep you abreast of what we are learning as well as provide a way for Fifth Graders to practice studying over several days for a test. This is a skill they will need in Middle School. In the past, parents have reported success with:

- Putting the study guide on the child's mirror. They brush and study at the same time.
- Put it in the car. While traveling to sports practice or events, child studies or is quizzed.
- Study the guide during snack after school. Child is quizzed after supper.
- Study one column of the brochure each night. On Sunday evening, quiz child over entire brochure.

Quiz questions on Monday will be exactly as you see them in the brochure. The underlined words are left out of the quiz questions. I do this orally. There are 10 questions.