



Fochtman's Fifth Grade News

October 7, 2011

Updates from the Classroom

Religion:

We are studying different Gospel Portraits of Jesus by comparing and contrasting the four Gospels. Feel free to join us for morning prayer at 8:15 when we Praise, Repent, Ask, and Yield.

Math:

We've moved on to Chapter 3 and are working on expressions and multiplication.

Science:

Classification is fun! We are learning how to make Dichotomous Keys and ways to classify animals.

Social Studies:

We will be studying water and people, landforms on and below earth's surface, and weather and climate.

Language Arts:

We have begun to study the genre of mystery using Chris VanAllsburg's The Mysteries of Harris Burdick. Students will be writing their own mystery stories inspired by Harris Burdick drawings. They will be sharing in their writing groups. We will begin reading a mystery in class as well.

Character

Education:

Our class had our first class meeting last week Friday! We will continue meeting as a class in the chapel after mass to share group affirmations, individual affirmations, and talk about goals for the upcoming week.

Important Things:

- Our classroom has been getting a little bit smelly, especially after recess. Please talk with your child about wearing deodorant to school every day. Our noses will thank you!
- No school Oct. 21.
- We love it when parents join us for mass on Fridays at 9:55. Your child is always welcome to sit with you! Just have them let me know.



Reflection Connection

By Timmy Lambert & Ondrej Kovarik

"I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me."

Phillipians 4:13

One time, I was in a semifinal baseball game and there were runners on 2nd and 3rd and I was up to bat. We were down by 1 in the 2nd to last inning and we were down by 7. I was up and I was thinking, "please help me to get a hit God and the next pitch I hit a single and we won the game."
- Timmy Lambert

God gives me strength to do things that are hard to do, like tell the truth and do something hard like vacuum the whole house.
- Ondrej Kovarik

Science

We are moving on to classification. We will be covering Chapter One, Lesson One and Chapter One, Lesson Two in our textbook. We have ordered more textbooks so that students will be able to bring them home.

Religion

The children have finished typing out their spiritual journeys, modeled after the Saturday Spiritual Journey Section in the Grand Rapids Press. You can look for these in the hallways at conference time! We are studying Chapter 24 in our textbooks, taking a look at Jesus, our model of prayer.

Language Arts

We are still working our way through Tuck Everlasting with Literature Circles and journal writing. We have introduced a separate writing workshop on Mondays and Thursdays from 11-11:35. The children are producing some amazing pieces. Watch for a writing assignment to come home soon on persuasion.

Spelling

The upcoming week will be a review of the first 5 lessons. Please be reviewing the spelling words with your children throughout the week.

Math

We are practicing multiplication of single and double digit numbers and soon will move into long division.

Social Studies

In Chapter Two, students will learn about how Earth's movements affect the energy we receive from the sun, the importance of water, and how earth's landforms were made.



Having some fun with Newton's
Second Law of Motion!

