



First Grade News

Fabulous First Graders

Mrs. Donohue's Class

April 15, 2011

Welcome Back!!!

I hope you had a wonderful Spring break.

Since we have been back from Spring Break we have had a very exciting time. You will see what I mean as you read on in the newsletter.

We have finished testing on all the Word Wall Words and will start "real" spelling next week. Look for a list coming home on Wednesday! Our spelling tests will be every Wednesday, so our 7th grade reading buddies can give each of the students their spelling words.

God Bless,
Kelly Donohue

Religion



This week we began Chapter 16 in our books. In this chapter we discuss how families are signs of God's love.

We also continue to discuss the Lenten journey.

Alliance of Catholic Schools Vision Survey

Please take time to electronically complete this survey online.

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/visionforcatholicschools>

Thank you!

The Chicks Have Arrived

Our eggs began hatching on Monday! We have all been very excited. Each day we have observed what we see and record it in a little observation booklet. We are learning about the amazing quick (21 day) growth from eggs to chicks. The students will be able to hold them next week when they are a little stronger. Please come into school and check our new chicks out!



Math

We finished our unit on **place value, graphing and using data.** Next week we begin the unit on **counting and using money.**

Keep practicing those math facts. Thanks for all your hard work on this.

Reading/Writing



Here is how the spelling is going to work: I have kept track of each word wall word from the pretest and which students missed which words. They will be given 7 words from their list to study for the week. They will write them down on Wednesday and take them home. Then on the following Wednesday their 7th grade reading buddy will test them on their 7 words. If they run out of word wall words that they don't know, they will have an-other list of words that they can choose from of more challenging words. Consider this part of the homework now for the next few weeks. Remember, we are getting used to some of those 2nd grade procedures.

This week we read "The Wild Woods" and next week we are reading "Wonderful Worms" which is a super non-fiction story about worms. I think the kids should have fun with this story.

Last week we started 6 traits in our writing. This is a very popular approach to teach good writing. We focused on the trait: ideas. We talked about how to get good ideas on what to write about. Next week we will discuss or- ganization. We will learn how to organize our thought and put them down on paper.

Important Dates to

Remember

Thurs. April 21— No School

Fri. April 22— No School

Mon. April 25— Non Uniform Day

Mon. April 25- Book Orders Due

Wed. April 27- First Spelling Test

Fri. April 29- Pom Pom Party



Science and Social Studies

This week we spent a lot of time **observing the chicks and doing some activities regarding this miracle.** We have read a lot of books and seen a lot of pictures along with the real hatching. Next week we will continue observing our chicks. For Social Studies we have Mrs. Race coming in from JA for the next few weeks to discuss **communities.**



Pom Pom Party

Yeah!! The class has filled the jar with pom poms! It is time to party. I was going to have the party next week, but I realized that we have a shortened week. So, **I am going to set the party date for Friday, April 29th.** I will be getting a movie permission slip to you soon. I would like to show the movie **Ratatouille.** We will also have the students bring in **sleeping bags or blankets and pillows.** They will still have to wear their uniform. The party will be the last hour and a half of the day. I will send out more information as the day draws nearer.

THE GIFT YOU HAVE RECEIVED, GIVE AS A GIFT