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# First Grade News

Happy New Year!!

I hope you all had a wonderful holiday season. It's so good to be back in the classroom. I missed all the children. Thank you for all your support!

Next week is Vocations Week. We will be discussing, in class, about how God has a special plan for each of us and has given us all different gifts that we can use to praise Him and do what he wants us to do with those gifts. We will be praying for various vocations and we may be viewing some video clips of amazing testimonies of how people heard and acted upon God's call.

The end of the second quarter is Friday, January 27th. This is our halfway point, it is just amazing how they have grown and how much they have learned! Report cards will be going home on Friday, February 3rd.

Peace,  
Kelly Donohue

## FLASHCARDS!!!!!!

The homework for the next two weeks is to make flashcards and practice them. Please make sure you practice a LOT so the kids are ready for one minute math (Mastering Math Facts) starting in a couple weeks. First I give them a short test to see how fast they write. Even if you think they know them, it takes lots of repetition to get it into the permanent part of their brain to recall the rest of their lives! Don't worry, we will start with the 0's and 1's first. The sooner they can memorize them, the better off they will be when we move on and when they move on to the higher grades. Let me know if it is a problem getting index cards and I will get you some. It is VERY important that they write their own cards, rather than using store-bought, as it will help them remember. You can keep these at home as they make them. Turn it into a game and they will love it.

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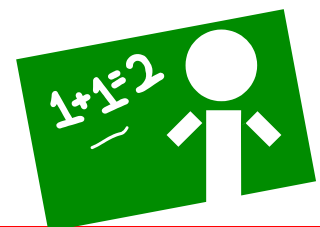
Mrs. Donohue's  
Class

January 6, 2012

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### Important Dates

- 1/9 Vocations Week
- 1/9 Jean Pass Day
- 1/11 Book Orders Due
- 1/27 End of 2nd Quarter
- 1/30 Non-uniform day
- 2/3 Report Cards Home



## Reading/Writing

Our Word Wall Words last week were: **with, will, eat, play, said.** Our Word Wall Words this week are: **fun, that, her, have, nice,**

I will be assessing the students again on Word Wall Words before report cards. I will send home an updated list next week. Please go over these whenever you can at home.

For Guided Reading this week we read a story called "**Later, Rover.**" We worked on sequencing and comprehension. During Daily 5 we discussed 2 strategies to help us with comprehension: Predict What Will Happen and Back Up and Reread.

For VoWac (Phonics) we are learning about digraphs (sh, th, wh, and ch). Next week we will review the short e sound with the digraphs sh, ch, th, and wh. Also next week I will be introducing the -tch spelling for the sound of /ch/.

For writing the students will be writing about how they will serve God and they will also start writing an original story about a penguin.

### Religion



We will begin Chapt. 8 in our religion book next week. In this chapter we will discover that **we are members of the Catholic Church who share our love for Jesus and one another.**



### Science/Social Studies

In Science and Social Studies next week we are going to start learning about penguins. We will discuss their habitat, body parts, what they eat, their predators, various kinds of penguins, etc. We will also practice our Mapping Skills.

**WORSHIP IN SPIRIT AND  
TRUTH**

### Math

**\*See the section in front about  
FLASHCARDS!**

We began Chapter 5 this week. In this chapter we will explore **geometry and fractions.**



**"Hear that? People in heaven have ever-laughing life."**

**BOOK ORDERS DUE: JANUARY 11, 2011**