



St. Thomas the
Apostle
Grand Rapids, MI
February 29, 2008
Volume 3, Issue 14

Mrs. Lake's Classroom Newsletter

Fantastic First Graders

Happy Leap Day!! I really enjoyed meeting with all of you during conferences.

Please remember to send a snack with your child each day, and we desperately need extra snack for the cupboard. I have many students each day who forget snack and they get super hungry in the morning. If you can help us out, we would really appreciate it.

Don't forget our Green Eggs and Ham breakfast on Monday morning—your kids won't need a breakfast, maybe just a small snack in the morning. We are having green eggs, ham, mini-bagels and juice. We are really enjoying celebrating Dr. Seuss.

Have a wonderful weekend!

School: 458-4228 X335
school email: hlake@stthomasgr.org
Home (before 8PM): 554-3339



Alive in the POWER of
the HOLY SPIRIT!!

March is Reading Month

In order to celebrate March is Reading Month, we are keeping track of our reading by writing the names of the books on ice cream scoops. Each child will need to complete 7 scoops for 21 books read in the month of March. I am attaching their first sheet of scoops and will send a new one when you send in completed scoops. Send them in as you go along so they don't get lost. At the end of the month, those with 7 scoops will be able to participate in an ice cream party to celebrate!

Religion

We continue to focus on Lent as I'm sure you are. We are talking about the personal choices we have to choose to do the right thing and that Lent is a time to reflect and think about our choices and how we can do better. We have also talked about the word "sacrifice" and how we make little sacrifices during Lent because Jesus made a BIG sacrifice on the cross. This week we read about the Spirit and the Church and next week we will read that We Can Choose.

DON'T FORGET ABOUT THOSE FLASH CARDS!! PRACTICE PRACTICE PRACTICE. IT REALLY MAKES A DIFFERENCE. THEY NEED TO KNOW THOSE FACTS!



Reading/Writing

Our word wall words this week were: **red, now, cloud, any, many.** Next week's word wall words will be: **black, dry, how, more, their.** This week we read the story, **"The Shoe Town".** Our stories are getting longer and a little harder now that we are headed for second grade, and the kids are doing such a wonderful job with it. Next week for Guided Reading we will make our own **The Foot Book** and **practice reading many many Dr. Seuss books.** We really enjoyed Dr. Seuss and realized that we can reread his books a lot to work on fluency, or making the words sound better.

Spelling is going just great!

They are really enjoying the spelling tests. Remember to practice spelling the word wall words as well as read them so that they can perform both of those processes.

They are continuing to do a super job with **writing** and many are working on stories to publish!

Math

We are finished with **money** and will take the test on Monday. Then we are going to move into **measurement** which is a lot of fun for the kids.

We took the 2-minute math tests down to a **minute and a half.** Many were still counting dots and on their fingers, and cutting the time down makes them write them quicker. They are getting used to it. **Keep practicing!** Here is a great website for lots of fun addition games: www.gamequarium.com/addition.html

Science and Social Studies

This week for Social Studies we learned about **communities.** We talked about what is the same and what is different in different types of communities. Next week we will learn all about the **continents** and we have a COOL game we are going to make and play and they will bring home in the middle of the week.

In Science we worked on a planet book we made and talked in **detail about each planet.** We are going to start animals next week to get ready for our big animal project!

Diversity Week will be celebrated at St. Thomas next week **March 3-7.** A flyer was sent home with details about what events are going on during the week. Feel free to send anything in with your child that represents your family's culture.

For our service learning curriculum, we tie in reading since it is so important in first grade. We will be collecting new or your gently used books that you would like to donate to the Family Haven for those kids who probably don't have any books. You can send them in at any time during the month of March. 😊

Upcoming Events

Diversity Week

March 3-7

Green Eggs and Ham Breakfast

Monday, March 3

Jack Walch's Birthday!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Wednesday, March 5

All School Mass with the Bishop

Friday, March 7, 8:30 AM