



# LAKE'S LINES



St. Thomas the  
Apostle  
Grand Rapids, MI

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## Mrs. Lake's Classroom Newsletter

### Fantastic First Graders

Happy Easter!! and Happy Spring!!

Mrs. Codere will be the substitute teacher next week in the classroom. My in-laws are taking the whole family to Disney World next week. I will be back Monday, April 26. Please call her if you have any questions/concerns next week.

We have had a very exciting week in first grade as you will see in the column on the right! We are very busy and excited.

We have finished testing on all the Word Wall Words and we will start "real" spelling next week. Look for a list coming home on Monday!

skittle Count  
125

We are ONE  
BODY in CHRIST!!

### THE CHICKS HAVE ARRIVED!

Our eggs began hatching on Tuesday! We are learning about the amazing quick (21-day) growth from eggs to chicks. Please come into school and check them out! They will stay with us through next week then we have a nice home for them. The kids will get a chance to pick them up and hold them Monday, April 26 before they leave us. Here is a picture of our new babies!



### Religion

Happy Easter!! This week we have talked about how we celebrate Easter for 50 days and how Jesus came to the disciples and they recognized him. We have talked about how we recognize the risen Jesus this week. This week we finished Chapter 13 in the religion book called: We Celebrate Mass and next week we will read Chapter 14: Jesus Feeds a Crowd. We learned that we listen to God's word at mass and that the Eucharist is when we do what Jesus did and said at the Last Supper.

## 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 able to **choose on Monday from that list 7 words** to study for the week. They will write them down on Monday and take them home. Then on **Fridays I will test them** on their 7 words. If they run out of word wall words that they don't know, they will have **another 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 2<sup>nd</sup> 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. The kids will love it!

We have been working on **6 traits** in our writing. This is a very popular approach to teach good writing. We have already talked about the trait: ideas, and we are now working on: **organization**.

## Math

This week we finished the chapter on **counting to 100**. Next week we start Chapter 8: **Place Value, Data, and Graphs**.

**I can't stress enough practicing those addition facts and MMF**. The thing I hear from older grade teachers over and over again is that the kids do not have their facts memorized and it hurts their progress with other concepts. Even after spring break, I noticed it was a struggle to remember those facts, which means they aren't in that back, permanent part of the brain yet. And that's the goal. They just have to **KNOW** them. Thanks for all your hard work on this. They are making good progress!

## Science and Social Studies

This week we spent a lot of time **observing those chicks hatch** and doing some activities regarding this wonderful miracle! We have read lots of books and seen lots of pictures along with the real hatching. It has been a wonderful experience. Next week, Mrs. Zoppa, who raises chicks at home will come and visit to answer some chick questions.

In Science next week we are going to talk about **ecology and Earth Day**. For Social Studies this week we started to learn about economics and needs and wants. We will continue with that next week.



## Upcoming Events

### **Mrs. Coderre subbing**

April 19-23

### **Earth Day**

Thursday, April 22

### **Non-Uniform Day**

Monday, April 26

**YESTERDAY I SENT HOME  
THE COMPLETE LIST OF  
WORD WALL WORDS FOR  
THE YEAR!**