



LAKE'S LINES



St. Thomas the
Apostle
Grand Rapids, MI

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Mrs. Lake's Classroom Newsletter

Fantastic First Graders

I really enjoyed meeting with all of you during conferences! I feel so blessed to be at a school with such a wonderful set of families and so much support. Thank you!

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 Tuesday 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. Please let me know if you can help us out that morning. We are really enjoying celebrating Dr. Seuss.

Have a wonderful weekend!

School: 458-4228 X335
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Home (before 8PM): 554-3339

We are One Body
in CHRIST!!

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 are beginning our focus on Lent as I'm sure you are. We are talking about how 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 prepared for Prayer Service and wrote down the sacrifices we are going to make during Lent. That came home yesterday and read about the second week of Lent. Next week we will talk about The Church's Celebrations.

**For Museum trip on
Monday 3/8:
—all students need to bring
a disposable cold lunch in a
paper bag with their name
on it (don't forget a drink!)
—It is a regular uniform day**

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 enjoy Dr. Seuss and 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.

Check out Mrs. Jazwiec's wiki at <http://jazwiec.pbworks.com/> for some great links, including the Google Sketch Up free download the kids have been enjoying (under Open Source)

Math

We started working on Chapter 6 this week: **Time.** So far we have really just learned about the **hands on the clock** and **telling time on the hour.** Next week we will work on time to the half hour and elapsed time.

MMF is going very well. They are getting used to it. **Keep practicing! When the sheets come home, have the kids go over the top orally and they can write it too.** Here is a great website for lots of fun addition games:
www.gamequarium.com/addition.html

Science and Social Studies

This week in Science we took a test on all the concepts we learned about **weather.** That came home yesterday and they all did very well! Next week we are starting our unit on **animals.** We will learn about how animals grow up to look like their babies. We will read a little book called, "Animals and Their Babies" and also read in our science book. This unit will end with **animal reports** the kids will do, and also our **chick hatching** after spring break!

For Social Studies next week we will be working a bit more on maps. The kids are going to make a **map of the first floor of school.**

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. This year we are making this an event in partnership with the League where we have been keeping track of our service hours and donations. It is called "Read and Give." You can send them in at any time during the month of March. ☺

Upcoming Events

Green Eggs and Ham Breakfast

Tuesday, March 2

Field Trip to the Public Museum

Monday, March 8

New or Gently Used Book Drive

March