



St. Thomas the
Apostle
Grand Rapids, MI

January 29, 2010
Volume 5, Issue 12

Mrs. Lake's Classroom Newsletter

Fantastic First Graders

Sure is cold out there!! At least the days are getting longer! We'll see what Mr. Groundhog has to say on Tuesday!

A reminder that the kids will always go out for lunch recess if the wind chill is above zero. Make sure they have all their snowpants, mittens, hats, etc. each day to keep them warm and dry.

Next week is Catholic Schools week with many exciting events planned. See the flyer that went home with the Pieces for details.

Please remember to keep up on the reading and practice the MMF sheets that come home if your child hasn't passed a particular level. This should only take a couple minutes for them to read through the top half.

School: 458-4228 X335

hlake@stthomasqr.org

home: (before 8 PM please) 554-3339.



Keeping Healthy

Don't forget that being cooped up inside contributes to sickness. I saw a doctor on TV talking about keeping kids healthy and he said germs are like sticky rice and stick to things, so, of course, encourage kids to wash hands often. The other interesting thing he said was to have them change clothes right away when they get home from school, so the germs they collected while there are off their bodies. Finally, he said that SLEEP is the very best thing for the immune system, better than any vitamins or herbs!

100th Day of School & Valentines
On Monday, February 15 we will be celebrating the 100th day of school!! (if days go as planned)

We would love to have a special treat. We will also be having a Valentine's Party for Fun Friday, Feb. 12 1:30 PM to 2:20. Please know you are always welcome to join us for our parties—the more the merrier!! Please call Michelle Figueroa if you are interested in helping or sending a treat for either of those things. We will be joining with Mrs. Donohue's class for our Valentine activities, but will pass out Valentines just in our class. I have attached a list of students.

We are ONE Body
in CHRIST!!

Reading/Writing

Our Word Wall Words this week were: from, get, so, as, too. Next week our word wall words will be thing, all, could, good, has

This week we read, "Hattie and the Fox" and then practiced a reader's theater of the same story.

Next week we are going to read, "And I Mean it Stanley."

In writing, we are working on stories for the publishing center. We are learning about the editing process and I am encouraging all the kids to work on a story to publish. Next week we will write about why Catholic Schools are special to us.

Math

Keep practicing those flash cards at home! The kids are really doing a great job with the MMF and they look forward to it each day! Remember to practice the tops of the sheets at home when they come home.

We have started the Geometry chapter in the book and they are learning about the attributes of shapes. Next week we will do some practice with symmetry and use some pattern blocks.

Attached:
Valentine List (We will have a party on Friday, Feb. 12 from 1:30-2:20, call Michelle Figueroa if you can provide something or help.)

Science and Social Studies

We worked in the Science Lab this week on a penquin wheel. We then read a book and made our own book about Emperor penguins. We have really enjoyed our study of penquins within our study of the weather. Next week we will talk about snowflakes and winter weather.

In Social Studies we are studying how time passes. We made a calendar a few weeks ago and this week we made a book about the months of the year and practiced saying the months to the Macarena! What fun! We are also spending some time on map skills.

Religion

This week we learned about the first Christians who followed Jesus (Chapter 9) and how they are not so different than us and can provide good examples for us.

Next week we will talk about Catholic Schools and what a gift it is for us. We will enjoy mass on Friday with our special guests. Special guests should be at school by 9:30 to head over to church with us.

Upcoming Events

Catholic Schools Week!!

February 1-5

Ice Skating Trip

Thursday, February 4

All School Mass with Special Guests

Friday, February 5, 9:55 AM

Valentine Party—Fun Friday

Friday, February 12, 1:30 PM

