



# LAKE'S LINES



St. Thomas the  
Apostle  
Grand Rapids, MI

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## Mrs. Lake's Classroom Newsletter

### Fantastic First Graders

Is it spring yet? ☺ It sure seems like that! We certainly enjoyed the warmer weather this week.

We will be hatching chickens in April!! I just have to find them some homes. So if anyone knows anyone that keeps chickens, can you let me know? Mrs. Zoppa in the Junior High has taken them the last few years and she is maxed out!

Our 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter ends next week. I will send home a word wall word list next week that includes all of them to this point. Soon we will not be introducing new words, we will review, review, review all the words. Remember we are taking spelling tests with these words too, so you can practice spelling as well as reading these words.

Please call me if you have any questions or concerns, or funny stories!  
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Email:hlake@stthomasgr.org Home:  
(before 8 PM please) 554-3339.

We are ONE BODY in  
CHRIST!!



### Ice Cream Scoops

Don't forget that the reading you do each night counts for the ice cream party we are planning! Make sure you are filling out scoops with the titles of the books you are reading. Each child needs 7 scoops, or 21 books, to earn ice cream at the end of the month. We will be having ice cream for Fun Friday on Friday, March 26 as the reward. I sent home 7 scoops for each child, but if you fill those, they can certainly do more, just let me know—I have tons of scoops at school!

Don't forget the book orders!! Now is the time to start stocking up for summer reading and earning our classroom free books! And it's so convenient to do it online now!

Please consider donating books for our Read N' Give program for Family Haven. We are collecting new or gently used books through the end of March.

### Religion

This week, we talked about the third week of Lent. Next week we are going to start working on the stations of the cross and they will make their own book for home. We also worked in Chapter 12 of our religion books: Come, Follow Jesus, a Scripture story. We read about going out and telling the good news of God's love like Jesus did. We will also learn about St. Patrick next week as well.

## Reading/Writing

This week's words were: over, want, but, new, talk. Next week our words will be: them, some, best, your, saw. You will get a complete list next week. Soon I will not be introducing any more word wall words. We need to make sure we REALLY have the ones on the wall. We are focusing on spelling word wall words correctly in our writing.

Speaking of writing, we have been working on learning how to write a descriptive paragraph. I demonstrated for them a web to make this a simple process, and then I gave them one and told them to choose an animal. Their paragraphs are WONDERFUL! They can use the same web to make their report for their homework animal project. They can choose a new animal, but the web will really organize their thinking and help them write a wonderful paragraph.

This week we read "Making Friends, Keeping Friends" and next week we are reading "Rex and Lilly, Playtime" in Guided Reading.

## Math

We finished Chapter 6 this week on time. They did very well on this tricky concept. Some were still shaky on half hour times, if you want to review at home. We will pretest and start learning about money next week. This is even trickier than time because they have to count by different numbers. Many of them won't completely understand it in first grade, but they will do it again in 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> so don't worry. We will have Lucky Charm math on Wednesday!

Keep practicing MMF!!

## Science and Social Studies

We are talking about animals and what they need, along with their differences and similarities. This week we learned about what makes animals living things and we talked about the different groups of animals (mammals, birds, fish, amphibians, reptiles, insects). Next week we will make bird feeders in the Science Lab. Next week will learn about the life cycle of the butterfly and other insects.

In Social Studies next week we are going to start trying to solve real problems. We are going to start with the problem of all the cars coming in and out behind school. Next week we are going to go out and draw a diagram of how that works at the Grace St. entrance.

## Upcoming Events

### End of 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter

Friday, March 19

### 11 AM Dismissal- Teacher Inservice

Friday, March 19

### Field Trip to Blandford

Monday, March 22

### Report Cards Home

Friday, March 26

- ✝ We still need extra snack for the cupboard PLEASE!!!!
- ✝ Can you save me some toilet paper tubes for Monday? Please send them in Monday for bird feeders.
- ✝ Mrs. Proulx needs plain sheets and pillow cases for first graders' costumes for the spring program!
- ✝ We'll be going back outside for morning recess next week!