



LAKE'S LINES



St. Thomas the
Apostle
Grand Rapids, MI

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Mrs. Lake's Classroom Newsletter

Fantastic First Graders

WOW! I am so impressed with this WONDERFUL first grade group. They are really growing up and are already learning so much—they WANT to learn so much, it's fabulous. They have conducted themselves so well, are such good listeners and are very bright! We are rolling right along!

At Open House, I did have some notes hanging on the wall outside our classroom of a few things we'll need this year. If you didn't see this and are able to help, please stop by and grab an item to provide for the class. You can email me too and I'll tell you what is left to pick from. Thank you so much for your help!

Please call me if you have any questions or concerns, or just want to chat about your wonderful child! My extension is 335. My email is hlake@stthomasqr.org and my home number (before 8 PM please) is 554-3339.

Farmer's Market

We are going to the Farmer's Market on FRIDAY, OCT. 2. I have attached a permission slip form to be returned. Please sign up at the bottom if you are able to come with us. We will walk over there and back.

Don't forget to send a couple dollars with your child if you can for them to purchase some fresh fruits or vegetables. We are also going to purchase some fresh fruits and vegetables for measuring in a science lesson!

Young Explorer

I am so excited about the National Geographic Young Explorer magazines that we ordered for the 1st graders. In the September issue we will read about garden helpers, how food gets to the market, and animals that help each other.

Remember we have a *super hot lunch program that is nutritious and yummy (and saves you 5 minutes of lunch -packing a day!!*

We are ONE
BODY in Christ!

We will have our Field Trip planning meeting on WED. September 30 at 3:15 in the classroom. Please come and plan our field trips for the year!

Reading/Writing

We have continued to work on one **name a day** in our Working With Words block and also our writing block. They are really enjoying both of these activities. First we look at the shape of each name, and the sounds and then we see what words we can make with the letters in each name. Then during **writing** we make a web of the things that child likes and **each person writes about them**. This is made into a book. It will take us a another couple weeks to finish all the names and then we will do some activities with all the names.

During the Guided Reading block this week we read **"Mrs. Wishy-washy"** which was great fun! She did come in for a visit today! We acted it out and sequenced and read together. Next week we will do a story called **"The Meanies"** which is really a blast—the kids love this story. After that we will start to do some stories out of our reading books.

Math

We are working in Chapter 1 still this week. Based on the pretest, the children that already understand a particular lesson are doing some enrichment about the same concept that is being taught. We will continue in chapter 1 next week with **comparing numbers and some pattern concepts**. We will soon take a break from the book all together so I can briefly teach them **touchpoint math**: a system where each number has a dot to help them with adding and subtracting. There will be more on this later.

Science and Social Studies

This week we went to the science lab and learned in our science book about **what scientists do**. They sort and they observe and they make inferences and they make models. We made a model airplane to see what it does to illustrate how scientists make models to study things. The children learned that **they are scientists too!** Next week we are going to finish up learning about germs by making a little book and reading some more about how germs are spread.

In Social Studies we talked about the **Constitution** on Wednesday for Constitution Day. We colored a book and watched a power point and the School House Rock song, "Preamble." Next week we are going to talk about the **purpose of government** and how we need good leaders to help us **follow rules** both at school and in our country.

Religion

We are working on Chapter 1, **"God Loves Us."** At prayer service this week we read the book, "God's Dreams." It is a beautiful book about how God wants us to love each other. Next week we will present prayer service on our theme: **"One Body in Christ."**

Upcoming Events

Picture Day

Monday, September 28

NON-Uniform Day

Monday, September 28

Field Trip Meeting

Wednesday, September 30, 3:15 PM

Farmer's Market

Friday, October 2, 8:45 AM

11:00 AM Dismissal: Teacher Inservice

Friday, October 2