



First Grade News

Mrs. Donohue's Class

Fabulous First Graders

Well we are all trying to adjust to these long days. The students are doing a super job. They are working very hard!

Thank you for all your support. I thank the Lord that I have such a wonderful group of parents to work with.

Please return the pink Volunteer Information Sheet that you received in your First Grade Handbook as soon as possible. I will be contacting each of you in the next couple weeks to talk about how your child is adjusting to first grade.

Thank you again for sharing your precious little ones with me. I hope you all enjoy this beautiful weather over the weekend.

God's Blessings,
Kelly Donohue

Farmer's Market Field Trip



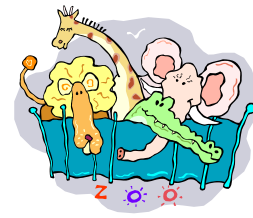
On Friday, Oct. 1 we are planning to walk down to the Farmer's Market on Fulton Street with Mrs. Lake's class. I will be bringing some produce back to the classroom to observe, investigate, and compare. We are asking that each student bring a couple dollars to purchase some fresh fruits or vegetables.

I am going to need some chaperones for this field trip. If you could help out that would be greatly appreciated. A permission slip is attached.

St. Thomas the
Apostle School

Sept. 17, 2010





Reading/Writing

We have been reviewing our Zoo Phonics and will continue to do so for the next couple of weeks.

We also have begun The Daily Five. The lower elementary teachers are excited to introduce you and the students to **the Daily Five**. **The Daily Five** is a student-driven management structure designed to fully engage students in reading and writing. Using our curriculum to drive instruction, the Daily Five will enable us to work with individual students and small groups in order to meet them at their own instructional level. During our literacy time, if you look in our classroom, you might see a whole-group focus lesson followed by students rotating through the daily five:

- Read to Self
- Read to Someone
- Work on Writing
- Word Works/Spelling
- Listen to Reading

The Daily 5 is a structure that will help students develop the daily habits of reading, writing and working with peers that will lead to a lifetime of independent literacy.

So far we have practiced Read to Self and Read to Someone. Next week we will be working on Listen to Reading.

We continue to work on one name a day in our Working With Words block and also our Writing block. They are getting very good at this. We have also read the book **The Meanies**. We echo read it and we also did some story quencing.

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Pennies for Charity

This year, to go along with our school theme, the students in our class will be trying to earn pennies to put in Hammy the piggy bank. Students earn pennies by sharing their God given talents with others. This might be by caring for someone, helping a friend, being a good listener, taking their time to do quality work, etc.. When we have filled Hammy we will donate the money to the St. Thomas Angel Fund to help other children, who can't afford a Catholic education, to attend St. Thomas.

If anyone would like to donate a roll of pennies it would be greatly appreciated.

Math

We have been doing some addition and subtraction readiness activities. The students have used counters, mats, and even themselves as manipulatives. We are continuing with this chapter next week. We will be looking at 1 and 2 more than and less than and also some patterning.

Special Person of the Week

I neglected to explain out Special Person of the Week board in the handbook that you received during Open House. Each week one of the students in the class will be Special Person of the Week. The Friday before I will send home a poster that needs to be filled out by the student and a note stating that your child needs to return the poster by the following Monday. Your child will be calendar helper during the entire week. Every child in the class will have a chance to be Special Person of the Week.



Field Trip Planning Meeting



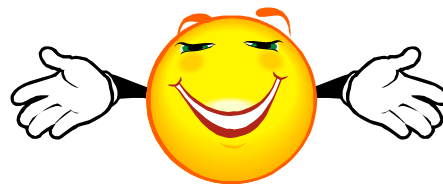
Mrs. Lake and I will be having a field trip planning meeting on Thursday, Sept. 23 at 3:15 in Mrs. Lake's room. Please come and help us plan this year's first grade field trips.

THE GIFT YOU
HAVE RECEIVED,
GIVE AS A GIFT



Dates to Remember

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|-----------------|--|
| Sun. Sept. 19 | Catechetical Sunday |
| Wed. Sept. 22 | Artprize Begins |
| Thurs. Sept. 23 | Field Trip Planning meeting |
| Mon. Sept. 27 | Non-uniform day
H&SA Skating
Party 6:00-8:00 |
| Mon.. Sept. 27 | School Pictures |
| Fri. Oct. 1 | Farmer's Market
Field trip 1:00 pm |



Thank you to everyone that picked up a sticky note from the poster outside our door. We appreciate your donations!