

November 4, 2011

Dear Parents,

Happy November! Today marks the end of the first quarter. We have settled into a routine, and I am very pleased with the progress we are making. I am seeing better self-control and a growing maturity among the 3rd graders. I am having a lot of fun with them!

Report cards will be available for online viewing on November 11th. I am sending a form home for email addresses. I already have many of your email addresses, but by filling out the enclosed form, it will help me to update. Please let me know if you will not be able to view the report card online and I will print you a copy. Also, please be sure that all library books are returned and hot lunch accounts are paid to date. Thanks so much!

Your scheduled conference time is also in the folder today. I look forward to meeting with you to discuss your child!

Here's a quick academic update:

Math: We are finishing our work with subtraction next week (chapter 5.) We will be having a text next Wednesday or Thursday. Please encourage your child to continue to study addition/subtraction facts. I am seeing lots of mistakes in basic facts. We continue to work on becoming more proficient on recall of the basic facts.

Science: Great job of the test! Almost all "A's" for everyone! We are now moving on to learn about where plants and animals live. We will be learning about relationships among living things and about ecosystems. As part of this exploration, we will be learning about the

rain forest. We will be doing lots of exciting activities associated with the rain forest cover all subject areas. This is a blast to teach. . . . and to learn about! I'm so excited!

Language Arts: What a beautiful piece of leaf Art the kids created with their 8th grade buddies! They also did a super job on the descriptive paragraphs about their piece! I'm not sure if I mentioned it last week, but the hat projects were also very well-done. Thank you for helping your child! We did some work with nouns this week and also practiced writing similes. They had fun with these! We will begin a new story in reading next week.

Social Studies: We have been learning about the Native American groups in Michigan, specifically, the Hopewell, the Anishinabeg, as well as the Huron. We are moving on to discuss the Europeans who came to Michigan. We will also be creating a time line.

Religion: This week we learned about what it means to be a saint. I will be focusing on the lives of various saints throughout November. We are also continuing to explore the Bible. Thank you to Mrs. Deveau and Mrs. France for serving as catechists in our room Tuesday morning.

Have a wonderful weekend!

In God's Peace,

Mrs. Deb Pieri