

9-7-07

Third grade news

Hello Parents,

Wow! What a week we've had already. Our classroom is **alive in the power of the Holy Spirit!** We have such a wonderful group of children! We've been having fun **getting to know each other.** I am starting to **assess each individual student to see where they are academically.** I know that each child learns and develops at a different pace; therefore I will try to **offer appropriate, yet challenging work for each student.**

For homework this year Mrs. Pieri and I will be working together to **offer students some choice and differentiation.** Doing homework in this fashion will hopefully provide challenge for those students that need a challenge and support for those that may need more time to understand different concepts.

Every week we will be celebrating a **Star of the Week.** Everyone will get a chance to be Star of the Week this year. I was the first Star of the Week. It was fun to tell the children all about myself and my family. The child who is chosen Star of the Week will receive two papers, The Third Grade Times and My Favorites, the Friday before their assigned week. They should fill these out and return them on Monday with some pictures (no more than 8) to place on our bulletin board. This is a fun way to get to know each other.

The children will also be given a **weekly reading log each Friday.** They are to read 75 minutes a week. I don't care how they split up the reading time, just so they get at least 75 minutes done. Before they turn in their completed reading log the following Friday they have to have it signed by a parent. I always encourage the students to read more!

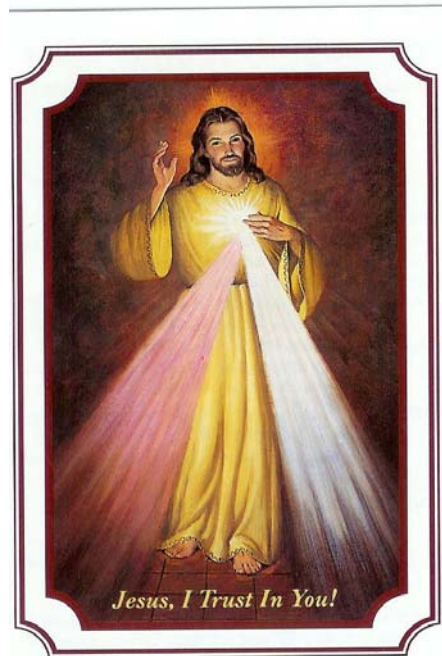
I am sending home some **September book orders.** You can get some very good deals on books. If you want to place an order **please make your checks out to Scholastic Book Club and return your order by Thursday, September 13th.**

I am also attaching a letter from Highlights Magazine. The class can receive some great gifts just for returning the signed form. There is no need to purchase the magazine. Please return these by Thursday, September 13th also.

We spent the last part of this week learning how to use our planners. These are very important in helping to keep the students organized. They are also a great tool to use for home/school communication.

I will have a lot more information for you at the family open house next Wednesday, September 12.

I want to thank you in advance for all your support and the warm welcome I have received from everyone at St. Thomas this year. I am so excited to be working with this wonderful group of children. I feel truly blessed. Each and every one of them has a uniqueness about them that makes our classroom come alive with learning and fun. It is an honor to be working with you and your children. I look forward to getting to know you better.



*The Image
of the Divine Mercy*

Have a wonderful weekend!
God Bless,
Mrs. Kelly Donohue