

October 23, 2017

Dear Third Grade Parents,

REMINDERS

Mid Trimester Reports: Mid-Trimester reports will be coming home **today**. These reflect the progress that your child is making this year. I just wanted to clarify the grading system. 4, 3, 2, 1 do not equate to A, B, C, or D. Please look at the descriptors. The **4** means **exceeding standards**, so they are going **above and beyond** what is expected. They must add more components than requested. *Students will not be receiving 4's at this point in the year.* A "4" means the student is going above and beyond expectations. This early in the year it is not appropriate to give a "4" in most subject areas as we have not had the opportunity to delve deep enough into the content to warrant this exceptional score. Your child may be doing excellent work, and they may receive a 3. A **3** indicates that they are **meeting the standard** for their grade level, and they are doing **quality work**. A report card with mostly 3's is something to be proud of! A **2** means that your child is **working towards the standard**. Your child may be working their hardest, but more growth is needed in order to meet the standard. It also indicates that progress is being shown. On the other hand your child may receive a 2 because they are not trying their hardest. A **1** indicates that your child is **below the standard** and needs more assistance and practice in order to meet the standard.

Cursive: We will begin cursive this week! We will start off with the letters "i" and "t."

Picture Retakes: Picture retakes will be on Thursday, October 26th. If your child is taking pictures, they can wear free dress on Thursday.

Lunches of Love: 3rd grade will be donating Lunches of Love in the month of October. Our second turn in day is this **Friday, October 27th**.

Prayer to the Holy Spirit: Students have been reciting The Prayer to the Holy Spirit. This prayer will need to be memorized by **Monday, November 6th**. Your child can also recite the prayer to me before this date, if they are ready. They can recite the prayer to me before school, after school or at recess.

Touching Safety Curriculum: The Archdiocese is having all teachers teach two Touching Safety lessons this year, one in October and once in March. Our first lesson will be this week, called “Safe Touching Rules”. We will discuss safe touches and unwanted touches and what to do about unwanted touches. Here is a link to a program guide more information for parents and guardians:

<https://www.virtusonline.org/educators/TeachingTouchingSafety.pdf>

CURRICULUM

Language Arts: Students begin a free verse leaf poem, which describes fall. They incorporate all of the senses to help paint a picture for our minds. Our focus is on adding juicy adjectives to our writing.

Religion: Student study and illustrate the Angel of God Prayer.

Science: We will continue learning about life cycles this week. Students will compare and contrast the life cycles of a frog and a lady bug. Students will then move on to compare and contrast the life cycles of reptiles and birds.

Social Studies: We continue to work on our geography lapbooks. This week we focus on the compass rose and different hemispheres.

Math: We move on to subtraction this week. We review subtraction with regrouping and subtraction across zeros.

Reading: We read chapter 6 and 7 in the Boxcar Children. This week we focus on character traits. Students identify traits for each character and find evidence in the book to back up their idea.

Spelling: The homework is due Thursday and test will be Friday. Our pattern this week is three consonant clusters.

three	scrap	street	spring	thrill	scream
strange	throw	string	scrape	spray	threw
strong	scratch				

Challenge word: straight

Star this week: Drew
Next Week: Mattie

I hope you have a wonderful week!

Sincerely,

Erin Meland



Working on "Mad-lib monsters"



A visit from Father Oakland