



December 4, 2017

Dear Third Grade Parents,

We are very busy preparing for the birth of Christ, as I am sure you are as well!

REMINDERS

Report cards will be sent home this Friday. 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. 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.

Confession and Mass: Students go to Confession tomorrow and we have Mass on Friday at 8:45am. Students need to be in perfect uniform both Tuesday and Friday.

Second Step: On Friday we began a unit on Empathy, focusing specifically on looking for clues on a person's face or body to understand how that person is feeling. We are sending home information on the lesson as well as an activity for you to complete with your child today.

Christmas Poems: Students will present their Christmas poems on Thursday. They need to have the poem memorized. They are also graded on their expression and use of hand motions. I look forward to seeing all of them!

You're Invited:

We will present our play on Friday, December 15th. Our performance will be at **9:15 am**. All parents, grandparents and siblings under 5 are invited. I'll give more information regarding costumes and props soon. Sorry, siblings at Holy Rosary will not be able to attend, due to limited space.

Costumes: Today we talked with your children about costume ideas for their character in the Nativity play. We will continue to talk this week as well. Costumes are not something that you need to go and buy but should be able to use everyday items.

Useful items could include: Pillowcases, sheets, bathrobes, scarves, belts, rope etc. Please let me know if you have any questions about the costumes.

Students need to bring their costumes in next Tuesday, December 12th. Please do not send them earlier because we don't have the space to hold them. **Your child's costume should be in a bag labeled with their name on it.**

Advent Outreach: All through Advent HRS will collect money and goods for our community. **The third grade is collecting money to purchase Christmas meals for 2 local families in need. We will also collect food for the Parish food bank.** I know this is a busy time of year, discuss with your child how they can earn some money to donate this Advent and do so to the extent your family is able. This is a great leadership opportunity and a chance for students to live out Catholic social teachings. On **Wednesday, December 13th**, we will gather as a school to honor this service and bless the gifts we are sending into the community. We will also go on our field trip to Safeway to purchase these meals that day.

Money donations are due Tuesday, December 12th.

Prayer Partner in Faith Family: We will be meeting in our Faith Families on Wednesday and will pick our Advent prayer partners. Please remind your child that their homemade card and prayer for their faith-family prayer partner are due to me by Friday, December 15th! **If you child does not know who their prayer partner is please tell them to see their Faith Family teacher!**

The card should reflect time well spent. Include on your card:

TO: (Your prayer partner's name)
FROM: (Your name)
A prayer that you have written
Artwork that you have drawn
Anything else you'd like to include.

Christmas Program:

The Christmas program is **Thursday, December 14th at 6:30pm** in the Church. Students have the lyrics in their folder. These lyrics need to be practiced and memorized at home.

CURRICULUM

Reading: We read Pop's Bridge and focus our target skills this week are story structure and compare/contrast.

Math: We continue with chapter 5-understanding division. This week we learn how multiplication and division are related and how to use multiplication to solve division problems. We also work on problem solving with division.

Social Studies: Students research the culture of a country of their choosing.

Science: Students will continue learning about adaptations this week. We will conduct an experiment to learn about duck feather adaptations.

Language Arts: We use this time to practice for our Nativity play. Students are working on reading with expression.

Religion: We will talk about the **Sacrament of Penance/Reconciliation**. We will also go over the steps to Confession and do an Examination of Conscience for our **Advent Penance Service** on Tuesday.

Spelling: Assignment is due Thursday and the test is on Friday.

joy	point	voice	join	oil	coin
noise	spoil	toy	joint	boy	soil
choice	boil				

Challenge word: poison

This week's star: Colin

Next week: Reese

Have a wonderful week!

Sincerely,

Erin Meland