

First Grade News March 3rd, 2017

Classroom News

The auction is this Saturday, March 4th! We hope that you will be able to come and share in the fun! Below are a few “first grade” items to keep an eye on at the auction (you can see the full auction catalog via the school website).

Easel party Item # 420 – Sip & STEM: First graders are invited to sip on juice boxes while working on St. Patrick’s day themed engineering tasks.

Live Auction Item # 13 – Rose City: Students painted foam mosaic tiles which were then assembled to depict the Portland skyline. Mt. Hood, downtown and the Rose Garden are also shown. The beautiful roses in the foreground represent each of our Portland-loving First Graders.

It’s the time of year to begin thinking of the first grade service project. For our service project the first graders (with the help of their 5th grade buddies) assemble Easter baskets to donate to CARES NW (Child Abuse Response and Evaluation Services). CARES NW’s *mission is to stop child abuse and neglect through multidisciplinary prevention, medical evaluation, and ongoing treatment in partnership with our community.*

We are in need of the following materials for the first grade service project.

As you are out and about, please consider stocking up on the following:

- 50 small sized Easter baskets (dollar store baskets have worked great in the past)
- Stuffed Easter toys, rabbits, ducks, etc. (These toys are the most needed item!)
- Jelly beans and other Easter candy (Please make sure they are individually wrapped or in small, sealed bags)
- A large assortment of stickers, pencils, novelty toys (bubbles, play dough, little games)
- Cellophane bags to individually wrap each basket

Please place your family's contributions in the bin in our classroom by April 7. The little children and their 5th grade buddies will assemble the baskets on the morning of April 11th. If you’re available the morning of the 11th, we’re in need of parent volunteers to help with this endeavor. Please check Volgistics if this is something you are interested in.

Another item that CARES NW has expressed a need for is blankets. Last year we attempted making fleece tie blankets and it was a pretty big hit! This is an “extra” to our Easter basket project and is completely optional for the kids to participate in. There are several different ways you can participate. You can make a fleece tie blanket at home and donate it. You can purchase fleece or donate money for our little elves to shop for fleece. Or lastly, you can join us for an after school blanket making session. If you would like to help make/tie the blankets for this project at school, please sign up via Volgistics. We will be making blankets after school on the 12th and 13th of April. If you would like to do this on your own, please have blankets to school by Friday, April 14th. If you’d like to donate money or fleece, please do so by Friday, April 8th. There is a “how-to” link below.

<https://snapguide.com/guides/make-a-no-sew-fleece-blanket-wout-bulky-knots/>

We need your help! Surprise reader has moved from Friday's at 11:20 to **Wednesday at 11:20**. If you would like to come in and read a favorite picture book to the first graders, please sign up via Volgistics. Surprise readers are also welcome join their child for lunch on the day they come in.

Star of the Week

March 13-17 – Dermot

April 3-7 – Isabella

April 24-28 – Grier

May 1-5 - Ivory

May 15-19 – Vincent

June 5-9 – Hannah

Curriculum Focus for Next Week

Religion

Next week we will learn about Lent. We will be learning about prayer, fasting and alms giving.

Reading

For the next several weeks our comprehension focus will be on visualizing and inferring. Next week we will focus specifically on inferring. We will learn that we use our background knowledge and clues from the text to infer.

Writing

We continue to work on our animal reports. These little researchers are working hard!

Math

Next week we will begin topic 7, the focus is on counting and number patterns to 120. We will be learning different ways to skip count to 120. We will work on recognizing patterns within a 100's chart and discussing how a hundreds chart can be useful.

Science/Social Studies

Next week we will continue our social studies unit on how culture is shared. We will be learning about how families around the world are alike and different.

School News

Sugar & Spice Drive

This coming week is the Sugar & Spice Drive sponsored by Seventh Grade. All donations will go to the Blanchet House's Founders Café. This specific charity helps provide free hot meals to those in need. They provide meals for a lot of people, but more specifically men who are recovering from addiction, unemployment, or home and family

issues.

The Seventh Grade is collecting sugar and spices all of next week. The items that you may bring in are: salt, pepper, sugar (granulated, powdered, brown, etc.), and any other spices. This is a great way to help an amazing cause, every donation matters. Thank you for help!

Snow Day Calendar Changes

March 10th, Half Day (11:30 dismissal), Conferences

April 14th, Regular School Day (Good Friday), Stations of the Cross, time to be determined

Upcoming Events

March 6-16

Sugar & Spice Drive for Blanchet House sponsored by Gr. 7

March 9

Tuition contracts and registration fees due

March 10

Conferences

11:30 Dismissal

March 13

Gr. K & 1 to KinderKonzert

March 15

8:30 Mass by Gr. PK & 4

March 17

End of 2nd Trimester

March 24

Spirit Day sponsored by Student Council

April lunch order deadline

Report cards go home

Token Goal free dress

8:20 PBS & Student of the Month assembly

9:30 All-Archdiocese 8th grade Mass

2:00 Cathedral Bowl