

First Grade News October 7th, 2016

Classroom News:

- **Kinderkonzert** – Our first kinderkonzert is next Monday. We will be hearing and learning about brass instruments. Please send your child with a car seat. The car assignments will be posted in the courtyard. Please drop your child's seat next to their name. It is helpful if the car seat is labeled with a name.
- **Run 4 Cathedral** – Thank you to those of you who have turned in your money for Run 4 Cathedral. Our parent volunteers have been busy collecting all the funds raised by this great run. If you have not yet sent in your money for this fundraiser, please send it in with your child. Thank you!
- Over the next few weeks, our reading comprehension focus will be on non-fiction text features and their purposes. One project we will work on to extend our learning about non-fiction text features includes writing captions for photos. For this project, each first grader will need to bring in 2 different photographs of themselves. The photos can include other family members, a pet, be from a special trip or really anything! Please help your child bring in 2 photographs by next Monday, October 10th. The photos should be 4x6 or smaller. We will be gluing them onto our project paper so you won't be getting them back in their original form (regular copy paper is fine). Thank you in advance for helping with this special project. If you need assistance with this, please contact us.
- **Instagram** – Our class now has a private instagram account for the first grade classroom parents/families. We will be sharing photos from our learning in first grade throughout the year on this account. Since privacy is very important to us, we will limit our instagram friends to parents. Our username is **cathedralpx1** if you would like to follow our instagram account please find and request us and send us an email including your instagram username. We're really excited about this opportunity to share what we do in the classroom with you!
- **Homework** –
 - Writing/spelling homework will come home Monday – Thursday. The Monday homework is usually a "take home task" for students to do with their family. This Monday homework does not need to be returned to school, however if it is something your child is excited about and wants to share we would love to see it!

- Math homework will come home Monday – Thursday
- 2-5 minutes of math addition/subtraction “Fast facts” within 0 – 12 nightly (flashcards, Xtra math, a math app, game, etc.)
- Reading nightly- there will be a spot on the writing homework to write down the nightly reading. Please encourage your child to do this on their own by looking at the book’s title.
- We are still in need of various supplies for science investigations this year. If you have any of the items below that you are willing to donate to our class we would be very grateful!
 - *Various sized boxes (no bigger than a shoe box – need 16)
 - *Toilet paper or paper towel rolls (need 16)
- Our October author of the month will be Tomie DePaola. If you have any of his books at your house, feel free to send them in to share!

Curriculum Focus for Next Week:

Religion: We will continue learning that we are made in God’s likeness and how we can be more like God.

Reading: We continue to focus on reading carefully and thinking about our reading. We will begin exploring non-fiction text and non-fiction text features.

Writing: The first graders used the writing process to publish their first writing piece. They planned, drafted, revised, edited, published and celebrated! Look for these awesome writing pieces in the hallway! Next, we will focus on writing a personal narrative.

Spelling: Our lessons next week will include: a is a letter and a word; some sounds are spelled more than one way and homophones.

Math: We will finish our geometry unit. We will begin learning about addition and number patterns within 10.

Social Science: We will crawl away from insects for the week to study elections. We will be focusing on how citizens have the right and responsibility to vote for community leaders, specifically the President.

School News:

Volunteering/Volgistics – We are especially in need of hot lunch and Run 4 Cathedral volunteers.

Year of Mercy Student Art Contest -The Archdiocese of Portland is sponsoring a student art contest to provide students in grades K-12 an opportunity to explore God's loving mercy through reflection and creative expression. Students may enter via a variety of media. Cash prizes will be awarded.

Upcoming Events:

Monday, October 10 – 1st grade KinderKonzert field trip

Wednesday, October 12 – Mass by Kindergarten and 8th grade

Friday, October 14 – No School – Teacher in-service

Thursday, October 20th– Pumpkin Patch

Thursday, October 27th & 28th – No School – Parent/Teacher Conferences

Tuesday, October 31st – Halloween parade @1:30 & class parties after the parade