

January 8, 2010

Dear Students and Parents,

We have now finished our first week back and the boys are doing a wonderful job. Hopefully, they have explained what a Friday Folder is to you and that it should be returned with this note signed on Monday or Tuesday of next week. In the Friday Folder, you will find any work that your child has completed, along with this newsletter that will also be posted on my webpage, for your reference. Friday Folders and the newsletter will be coming home almost every week.

Upcoming Events:

- D.A.R.E graduation will be next Thursday January 14 at 1:00 in the Parish Life Center

Literacy: This week in Literacy, the students have been learning about Reader's Workshop. We have talked about their role and my role in Reader's Workshop, as well as how to choose just-right books and use our classroom library. In Reader's Workshop, I am also assessing the students' progress; these results will be used for their report card and to plan future instruction. The students have also been introduced to Writer's Workshop this week. We had a wonderful time storytelling to get ideas flowing for the students. Each of the students participated in Bag-It, where they brought in 5 items to help explain their interests to the class. You can imagine that there was a basketball theme weaved through the interests of our entire class.

Religion: Throughout this week in Religion our class has been discussing the miracle of The Calming of the Sea that Jesus performed. The students related to the fear that the disciples may have felt on the boat. As a class we connected to the message that Jesus gave to the disciples. We know that He is always with us especially when we have difficult experiences.

Science: In Science, the students have been reviewing the solar system and the rotation and revolution of our planet. I did a demonstration to show the gravitational pull that keeps Earth revolving around the sun. Next week, we will be looking at seasons and the moon phases. Your child will have a quiz over all of this information next Friday. The review information will be coming home next week.

Math: For Math, you can refer to Mrs. Cooke's webpage for the classroom news.

Social Studies: This week in Social Studies, we discussed the Triangular Trade and Middle Passage. The students helped act this out with a demonstration for the class.

The class continues to impress me every day with their knowledge and deep faith. I am very thankful for your participation with checking and signing your child's assignment notebook every night. This has helped tremendously with their organization. Feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns. I have included my St. Mary's email address below to help us communicate.

Have a wonderful weekend.

Sincerely,

Sarah Melling

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