

March 12, 2010

Dear Parents and Students,

**Upcoming Events:**

Saturday March 13, 2010: St. Mary's Auction, Doors open at 5:30 p.m.

**Literacy:** This week in Reader's Workshop, the students have been practicing their fluency. As a class we have looked at how to read punctuation and scoop words into phrases that flow smoothly. The reading log is due on Monday and a new one will be going home next week. In Writer's Workshop, our class has been looking at poetry and practicing our own poems. We have focused on month poems that use description, object poems with personification, and event poems with sensory images. Next week we will be looking at other types of poems, including nonfiction!

**Religion:** In Religion this week, we have been studying Chapter 7. The students have been looking at Passover and the Pascal Mystery. We discussed the importance of the Resurrection and the Ascension, while we compared them using a graphic organizer. The students will have a Chapter 7 Test next Wednesday and a study guide will be coming home on Monday.

**Social Studies:** The students finished their colonial newspapers this week. I was very impressed with all their hard work on this project. Today, the students had a chance to share their newspapers while we enjoyed treats, similar to colonial times. The graded newspapers will be coming home next week.

**Science:** This week in Science, the students looked at nonliving and living factors in environments. We talked as a class about the basic requirements for living organisms and compared the nonliving and living factors we have in our home environment. Next week, the students will look at the requirements of plants and we will test our first variable.

**Word Study:** The students received their 1<sup>st</sup> group of word study words. I am giving students words, based on an informal assessment I gave them. Hopefully they will all have words that will be useful for them to study. Our first word study assessment will be next Friday.

Have a wonderful weekend.

Sincerely,

Sarah Melling

melling@stmarychargers.com

