

September-October Newsletter 4B



Grant me, O Lord my God, a mind to know you, a heart to seek you, wisdom to find you, conduct pleasing to you, faithful perseverance in waiting for you and a hope of finally embracing you.

St. Thomas Aquinas

October? Already! What a year it's been so far. We have learned so much in such a short amount of time and I continue to be grateful for my wonderful class. As we press on through October, I reflect back on September and I am reminded of how much growth my class has made in such a short time.

Science: We have begun to explore the living world around us and are fascinated by the understanding that all life derives from a single cell. As we deepen our understanding of Life Science, we will use microscopes to take a closer look at micro-organisms and investigate the difference between animal and plant cells.

Math: Place Value, Rounding, and Decimals were our focus during September. Now, we will be looking at Addition, Subtraction, Money, and Algebra. You can help your child by applying these computation methods to real world situations. A perfect place to practice is at the grocery store.

Social Studies: In Social Studies we will continue learning about the value of Geography and how the study of our world and the people and places in it affect us daily. Last month we studied Erosion and the students conducted a simple project out in the backyard playground. This month we are focusing on landforms and regions. The students will be creating continents in class. This is designed to help their understanding of landforms and regions. On November 3, 2011 their Cartography Capers project is due.

Reading: Last month students became reacquainted with SRI. Not only did they test for their new lexile levels, but they also tested independently on the computer on books they have read. I encourage parents to promote nightly reading. The practice provides wondrous results. This month we started our reading groups. This gives me the opportunity to meet with small groups and focus my attention in areas of need. I am reading "James and the Giant Peach" aloud to model fluency.

Religion: In September we studied the Beatitudes. This month our focus will be on Saints and how they lived their life according to God. Each student will be assigned a Saint and during keyboarding we will research and write about that individual. In religion we focus our attention on behavior and how it is a reflection of what we know of Jesus' teachings.

Thank you for all your support and continued presence in your child's education.

Upcoming Events:



- October 14, 1:00
National Hispanic
Celebration
- October 19, 1:30 Spirit Volleyball Games \$2.00
- October 21, DRA
- October 24, DRA
- October 28, Halloween Carnival
- November 3, Cartography Caper Project