

ST. PAUL SCHOOL NEWS

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John F. Corry, Principal
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Principal's News

With just a little over six weeks left of the current school year, we have many events coming up—from field trips to graduation. Please make sure you circle on your calendar any graduation dates and or times your child may have an event coming up at that time. We listed the times of ceremony and graduation dates in last month's Newsletter.

Teacher Appreciation Week is coming up next week (**National Teacher's Day on Tuesday, May 7**). I would like to thank our wonderful faculty & staff for all that they do for our students at St. Paul School. I can't express my gratitude enough to them. May be a good time to thank them!

As I mentioned several weeks ago, we are planning on some changes in the school year ahead. I won't bother going into some of the projects we will be doing, more on that later this summer when I have a better idea. For now, some of the changes will be with faculty & staff.

First and foremost, we will be saying our goodbyes to our **Grade 2 Teacher, Mrs. Shannon Reed**. After 16 years of dedicated and loyal service to St. Paul School (graduate of St. Paul too!),

Continued Principal News...

Mrs. Reed will be making a career change. Mrs. Reed throughout her career has been a very caring and compassionate teacher to many a student who has passed through the school hallways of St. Paul School over these last 16 years. We wish her the best on her new journey in life.

In our **Pre-K 3 yr. old** program, **Ms. Cecilia Spinella, Teacher Assistant** to Mrs. Sanberg will be attending Graduate School at Boston College. Ms. Spinella wore many hats during her only one year at St. Paul School. From Teacher Asst. to lunch duty aid to after-school director, she will be missed for not only what she did, but for her enthusiasm and kindness to everyone she met.

Our **Librarian, Mrs. Betty Fitzgerald** who was here on Wednesday's only will be going back to a well deserved retirement once more. Mrs. Fitzgerald came out of retirement to help us in getting our library up to speed. As a prior librarian at a library in downtown Providence, Mrs. Fitzgerald brought our library up to the 21st Century. Looks great now with books in their proper place.

I already have some replacements in mind. We still may have more changes coming in the weeks and months ahead (from lunch times to possible school times). Hopefully we may be getting some additional help too for the next school year. I'll keep you posted as soon as I get the official word on if or when. If so, it's something we haven't seen at St. Paul School since the 1980's.

With the **Month of Mary** coming up in May, we will be planning some activities to celebrate our *Blessed Mother* in the weeks ahead.

St. Paul School Drama Club Presents



Performance
May 17th @ 6:00pm



May 30th
Mass @ 9:00am



Pre-K News

Happy April! We hope you all had a wonderful spring break and Easter holiday with your families. We have had a great month of learning all about spring and new life. We started the month by talking about Easter and some of the sweet treats that we have at Easter time. We even did experiments that showed what happens to jellybeans and water! We enjoyed our lessons on Lent and Holy Week, learning about Palm Sunday and we were very happy to have Mrs. Bradley come and read to us about the first Easter bunny. We especially liked participating in our Easter egg hunt! We are finishing the month with a look at new life and the other animals that hatch out of eggs as well as learning a little more about rain.

We are looking forward to May, planting seeds and discovering what will happen! We will also talk about our moms, and Jesus' mother, Mary, too. PreK 4 will be getting ready for their "vacation" this month! We are still trying to work on a spring field trip; please watch for more details.

Kindergarten News

April has flown by in Kindergarten! We have begun learning about Spring and all that comes with that. We learned about the parts of plants and all that a plant needs to grow. We have even planted our own plants in our room. We are observing and recording how our Zinnias are growing each week. We have also been learning about butterflies and their life cycle. In science, students have also been learning about the water cycle and

they have been singing a lot of songs about it. We also did a science experiment about the water cycle and watched the water in a plastic bag evaporate and make condensation on the side of the bag. In math Kindergarten is beginning to learn about money and how much each coin is worth and how to count money. It was a very important time in April when we learned about the three Holy Days and celebrated Easter together. Kindergarten students made a list of all the ways that we could help to save our earth for earth day. They came up with so many great ideas!

First Grade

During the month of April, First grade had many things to celebrate. Children learned about Holy Week and the different events that led to Easter Sunday. Students then were challenged to put in order the list of events that happened before Easter, into a cross. The children had a blast with this activity. We also celebrated reading week this month. Children participated in many fun activities such as a word scavenger hunt, book bingo, and dress as your favorite storybook character. In our ELF program, teachers went around to each class and read a different book to the students. It was a great way to be able to spend time with past and present students and the children loved seeing all of the teachers in their classrooms! This month, students learned about money and how to count change. They also learned how to tell time by half-hour and hour increments. Lastly, Mrs. Pena taught students the colors of the rainbow in Spanish and they are beginning to learn different ways to greet each other. Thank you to all the parents who purchased our classroom book, students were very proud of the work they created!

Second Grade News



Our class enjoyed celebrating "Reading Week". They really had fun with our "Letters and Words" scavenger hunt. We also took a trip to the William Hall Library for a special read aloud with third grade. Congratulations to Cooper, Frankie, and Jaila who made it to the school-wide spelling bee. I'm so proud of them! Our second grade "All About Us" book came back from the publisher and it came out great. The students were so excited to see all their hard work paying off. We have been talking about "time" in math. Every student has made their own clock to use when practicing their skills each night. With our activity Analog Time vs. Digital Time, we found out that digital time is found more often in houses than analog time. Students should try to wear a watch to school. It would be great practice for them! I hope you had a wonderful Easter and may God continue to bless you!



Third Grade News



Third grade accomplished a lot during the month of April! In Reading, we continued to read about boys and girls from different cultures while completing Unit 5 of the Reading Street Program. Our spelling words are getting more difficult, but everyone still continues to work hard and do very well on the assignments and tests. In Math, we learned about area and perimeter. We built paper robots according to different dimensions. We played lots of area and perimeter games. A huge thank you to Mr. Wetherby, who came to visit our classroom on April 12th. He taught us all about the construction of buildings. Then while in groups, we were given toothpicks and gumdrops to try to build the tallest tower. Later we had to figure out the cost of our towers. We learned a lot and had so much fun!!

In Science, we studied the Solar System. We have begun our Plant Unit and did some planting on Earth Day. These plants will be a surprise for someone special!

In Religion, we were very busy preparing for Easter. We also continue to learn all about Jesus' love for us and try very hard to always live like Him. During reading week we participated in many enjoyable activities. We walked to William Hall Library to hear a few stories about space, enjoyed fun in the sun while reading to our Kindergarten buddies, and played bingo. Elijah, Michael and Arianna represented Grade 3 in the 3rd -5th grade spelling bee.

Congratulations to Arianna...she was the champion!!! We also had a couple of guest readers, Miss Courtney and Miss Vilen. They both loved visiting our classroom and reading to us!



Fourth Grade News

Happy Spring! Grade 4 is very busy with our exciting reading week ahead and the continued preparation of our production of Lion King Kids on May 17th at 6:00pm. Grades 4 through 8 are working extremely hard and they sound beautiful. Really looking forward to sharing their hard work with all of you! Grades 4 +5 are also going to Sturbridge Village on June 7th. The field trip cost is going to free due to the yearlong saving of our snack shop funds. The class is very excited for a day to explore New England colonial life. The children are going to dress down that day and bring a brown bag lunch as it's an all day event.

For reading week, we have many school wide events as well as activities between Grades 4+5. On Wednesday, we have three representatives that we will be cheering on in the school spelling bee. Our classroom theme is The Lorax. We are focused on Earth Day and our week will consist of activities pertaining to keeping our earth and environment healthy, clean, and loved. We will be creating bookmarks, making truffula trees, buddy reading, dressing up as our favorite character, and much more! Looking forward to our wonderful week ahead!

Fifth Grade News

Grade 5 enjoyed all our Reading Week activities. They did a great job connecting Earth Day and The Lorax by Dr. Seuss to our theme!

The students are looking forward to watching the *Lion King*, which stars some of their classmates, on May 17th. Please come and support our Drama Club presentation at 6:00 PM. Donations accepted.

Through the efforts of Miss Higg and the 4th & 5th Grades Snack Shop, we will be going to Old Sturbridge Village in the beginning of June...for FREE! Thanks for your dedication and time towards this project Miss Higg!

As we work through the fourth quarter, we will:

- Finish our study of the Seven Sacraments by learning about Matrimony and Holy Orders.
- Continue to multiply and divide fractions, review decimals and learn about probability.
- Read Johnny Tremain by Esther Forbes and connect it to the American Revolution.
- Study ecosystems and learn how organisms interact within them.

It promises to be a busy fourth quarter!



Sixth Grade News

Grade 6 Social Studies-

We are working on chapter 7 section one about Ancient Rome. We will be taking a quiz on section one next week. Ask your child about the founding of Rome. Who were the two founders? Ask your child what the Romans despised most.

Grade 6 Literature-

We finished our independent reading unit. Next, we will be working on short stories and poetry.

Vocab-In Vocabulary, the students took their unit 12 test last week. The students started unit 13 this past week. They should start preparing for their skills final which will be on units 1-15. As previously mentioned you can follow your students' progress in Vocabulary by signing into their Sadlier account.

Science- A class had a fun time dissecting the owl pellets before vacation. For the last unit of the school year, the students will be learning about the importance of the nerves system. In addition, the students will discover if they are left brain or right brain learners. With the month of May soon beginning and progress report on the horizon, the sixth grade Religion class continues its' study of the Jewish people again rebuilding its' identity and culture.

Turning to Math, the sixth grade class is starting a chapter on the multiplying and dividing fractions which includes a section on the Customary System of Measurement

Seventh Grade News

Grade 7 Social Studies-

We are learning about the origins of American Federalism. Ask your child about "Federalism Tree."

Grade 7 Literature-

We just wrapped up our independent reading unit and will be doing an anthology unit next.

Vocab-In Vocabulary, the students took their unit 12 test last week. The students started unit 13 this past week. They should start preparing for their skills final which will be on units 1-15. As previously mentioned you can follow your students' progress in Vocabulary by signing into their Sadlier account.

Science- Since getting a break from the students started a unit on the solar system. They so far learned about the reason for the seasons and the phases of the moon. Next, they will compare and contrast the different planets in the solar system.

The seventh grade has just finished a chapter on the sacrament of Baptism and will be starting one dedicated to the sacrament of Confirmation.

The seventh grade class will be preparing for a chapter test during coming week while the eighth grade will learn how to use the Pythagorean Theorem.

Eighth Grade News

Vocab-In Vocabulary, the students took their unit 12 test last week. The students started unit 13 this past week. They should start preparing for their skills final which will be on units 1-15. As previously mentioned you can follow your students' progress in Vocabulary by signing into their Sadlier account.

Science- All the students did a fantastic job with their egg drop projects. To end the year the students will get an understanding about the six simple machines. For their science final, the students will be asked to

create their own Rube Goldberg project.

Grade 8 Social Studies-

We have been learning about the Gilded Age and Progressivism. We discussed the influenza outbreak of 1918. Next week, we will learn about the First World War.

Grade 8 Literature-

We are wrapping up The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn. We will close out the year with a unit on poetry.

