

ST. PAUL SCHOOL NEWS

www.saintpaulschoolcranston.org

John F. Corry, Principal

November 27, 2019



Principal's News

Here's hoping everyone has a very filling and thankful Thanksgiving tomorrow. I can't believe it's going to be December in a couple of days and just three weeks away from Christmas Vacation after that! But before we get to that point, we have a few important dates to set aside for you to be aware of. *Hopefully you already know that dismissal was at 11:30 today!*

On Monday, 12/2 we begin the Advent Season with the lighting of the **Advent Wreath** at 8:15 in the school auditorium. We have **Mass** on Friday, 12/6 hosted by Grade 8 as well to begin this festive month of December.

And on the following Monday, 12/9, **2nd Quarter Progress Reports** go home. By the way, when these reports go home, please make sure you have checked them over and signed-off on them before they are returned--which they must be. Now is the time to see your child's teacher if you have any questions or concerns, not in May or June when it'll be too late.

Continued Principal News...

Once again, we have another **Food Drive** on Wednesday, 12/11 to help out the Church of Transfiguration's Food Pantry for families in need. We had a good haul of goods last time so let's keep at it once more for those families who need the help this holiday season.

Our Annual **Christmas Concert** is scheduled for Wednesday, 12/18 at 6:30. We have brought back Mrs. Patterson (who is now home with her baby) to prepare us for our concert that evening. The students started practicing a few weeks ago and sound pretty good. And don't forget the ending of the show with Grade 3 students performing the *Nativity Scene*.

The drawing for two tickets to a **New England Patriots** game on Sunday, 12/29 at 1:00 against the Miami Dolphins will be held in the school auditorium after morning announcements and prayer on Wednesday, 12/18. We still have tickets available for \$5 if you are interested. Only 300 tickets were printed up so the odds are pretty good on winning (\$40 for Parking & \$50 Gift Certificate to Olive Garden is included too!).

Our last day of school before the Christmas Break is on Friday, 12/20. Students from Pre-K3 to Grade 8 will be going to see "*'Twas the Night Before Christmas*" at RI College that day. Good time to get in the Christmas spirit! Before dismissal, Fr. Young **will** have a Christmas Prayer Service in the school auditorium at 2:00.

As for when we return to school, it's on Thursday, 1/2, 2020! It's a short week to say the least. I already had someone ask me why we just didn't take off both Thursday and Friday too, and I said you'll thank me in June!



Lighting of the Advent Wreath 12/2



Food Drive- Wednesday 12/11



Wednesday 12/18 6:30pm



Tickets drawing 12/18



Pre-K 3 & 4 News



Happy November! We had a harvest full of learning this month. We concentrated on farms and how we grow food and the important jobs that farmers have. We learned about the story of the Little Red Hen and how important it is to help others. We concluded our month with a Thanksgiving theme and being grateful for the ways that God has blessed us. We enjoyed our Thanksgiving feast and learning more about the very first Thanksgiving Day. Thank you to all of our families who made donations to our feast and those who were able to help us on that day! We can't believe that we are entering into December! We are looking forward to a festive and holy Advent season. We have some exciting activities to celebrate the season, including our field trip to the ballet of "Twas the Night Before Christmas". Please be sure to return your permission slips as soon as possible if you have not already done so. Happy Thanksgiving to you and your families!



Kindergarten News

We sure have been busy this month in Kindergarten. We started our month off by learning about All Saints Day and how we can be just like the saints. We also made cards for the Veterans and talked about who Veterans are and the different branches of the military. In Spanish, Kindergarten has been learning about the letters of the alphabet. We celebrated our 50th day of school with a lot of 50 activities. We began discussing what it means to be thankful and decorated our classroom turkey. In math, we learned about position words like left, right, above, and under. We started a Social Studies unit called Me on The Map in which students learned all about exactly where they live. We learned about our state, country, and even planet! Students had a fun time drawing maps of the places they live.

First Grade News



This month flew by in first grade! We are quickly filling up our class marble jar and are so close to earning free recess. We just finished chapter 4 of our math series which was about different ways to collect and read data. We began unit 2 in our reading street series and are learning about community helpers. We have been writing in our journals weekly and have made tremendous progress since September. For Veterans Day, we wrote letters thanking all the men and women who have served and are

continuing to serve for our country. I would also like to thank John Richards for coming in and talking to our class about what it's like serving in the Army! In honor of Thanksgiving, we have had many discussions about things that we are grateful for and how God blesses us with everything we have. Before Thanksgiving break, the ELF program had a Thanksgiving feast in the auditorium. We had so much fun eating and spending time with other students and teachers! Thank you to all of our parents who donated and volunteered and Happy Thanksgiving!



Grade 2 News



I cannot believe that November is already over! We have been very busy in Grade 2. Our focus on the month has been on Thanksgiving. We have learned about the first Thanksgiving, discussed our Thanksgiving traditions, and have done activities related to the holiday. We all agreed that we have so much to be thankful for! We had a

blast at our Thanksgiving Feast, where we ate lots of yummy food and celebrated with our friends in Pre-K, Kindergarten, and First Grade.

In Religion, we learned about Baptism and how we become a member of the church through it. Now, we are learning about Confirmation and the Holy Spirit.

In Reading, we have started doing reading groups, which the students have been loving! We have also started learning about different types of nouns, such as proper nouns, and singular and plural nouns. We have finished another Flat Stanley book and have moved on to another one of his adventures. The kids are loving the series!

In Math, we are learning about different methods of subtracting and how we can relate them to addition, such as using addition to check our work. We just had another math test and did awesome!

Our Christmas concert will be on Wednesday, December 18th. The students have been practicing their two songs and they already sound great! I hope to see you all there. We also have a field trip on December 20th to see a dance performance of "Twas the Night Before Christmas". I am so thankful for my second graders and their families this holiday season. Happy Turkey Day to all!



Grade 3 News



November was full of many activities. We began the month discussing saints and all their wonderful traits. Then we made a saint person and listed some of those traits. We also decorated the room with cornucopias and turkeys, with which we wrote what we are thankful for on the feathers. We also wrote a thank you to God for all the wonderful things He has given us.

In Math we finished our subtraction unit and have started practicing our multiplication facts. In our reading program, we learned about compound words, consonant digraphs, words with 3-letter blends, and possessive and plural possessive nouns. We also made author's purpose "pies" to learn about the reasons an author writes.

In Science we learned about clouds. We can identify all the types of clouds. We even made our favorite type of cloud out of cotton balls! Next, we will be learning all about the water cycle.

In Social Studies we focused on the Pilgrims and Native Americans and compared their way of life, including their environment, food, houses and clothing. We decorated Native American headbands and Pilgrim hats and wore them to our Thanksgiving Feast with a twist. The feast was a lot of fun, we made butter and ate corn muffins, popcorn and cranberry sauce. We even had muddy buddy mix and delicious turkey cookies!!

Thank you to all the parents who donated food, drinks and paper products, it was greatly appreciated.

We have begun practicing our song with Mrs. Patterson and will begin to practice every day for our Nativity presentation. We can't wait to perform for you on December 18th at our Christmas concert.

Happy Thanksgiving to all!!

Grade 4 News



Happy Thanksgiving to you! May your holiday be filled with joy, family, friends and gratitude.

This month has been filled with learning and fun. We enjoyed going to Trinity Rep and viewing *A Christmas Carol* and look forward to seeing *'Twas the Night Before Christmas* next month. We have enjoyed our read-a-loud books so far this year and are now in the midst of Mrs. Frisby and the Rats of NIMH.

We continue to work on operations in math, with a focus on finding the value of variables. In religion, we have been studying about Reconciliation to help prepare us for the receiving of the sacrament this upcoming Advent season. In science, we are building on our investigations of earth materials and discovering what igneous, metamorphic, and sedimentary rocks are. We now know all the capitals of the New England

states and the Middle Atlantic states. When we return from Thanksgiving recess, we will explore the southeast region. We have also begun our work on Global Fun Day. Students are working with grade five to learn about a chosen country's culture. We look forward to the presentations sometime in the new year.

Grade 5 News

I can't believe how fast our 5th grade year is going! Grades 4 and 5 once again had a beautiful field trip at *Trinity Rep.* It was the perfect welcome to the holiday season and they all truly loved it.

In Science, we've just completed our quarter long unit on Rocks and Minerals. We are now spending quarter two focusing on Social Studies. Grades 4 and 5 have been placed into groups and have begun working on *Global Fun Day*. This is an exciting project that they really enjoy exploring. Each group has chosen a country and are now working on the map and flag of that country. More information will follow in the coming weeks for when the presentation will be held. We'd love to see you all there!

Have a happy and safe Thanksgiving!

Grade 6 News

Skills-The The students just took their unit 4 tests. We are currently working on unit 5 now and will have a test before Christmas break. Their progressive reports will reflect the grade they receive on the unit 4 test. **Science-** Grade 6 just finished dissecting their owl pellets. We will be now moving on to the weather. We will learn what causes weather and how weather can be predicted. **Math-** students have started a section on the writing of algebraic expressions and their utility in solving word problems.

Religion class has finished an introduction to the composition of the liturgical year and are now beginning a study of the season of Advent leading into Christmas.

Social Studies, we are starting to finish up our studies on Egypt before moving on to China.

Literature, we are reading *The False Prince*. Ask your child who should be chosen as the prince?

Grade 7 News

Skills-The The students just took their unit 4 test. We are currently working on unit 5 now and will have a test before Christmas break. Their progressive reports will reflect the grade they receive on the unit 4 test.

Science-In science, the students are learning about how traits are inherited. We have been focusing on the Punnett square. During December the students will work on making DNA models and extracting DNA from a fruit.

Math class will be introduced to equations and inequalities and the methods by which they are solved.

Religion class is beginning a unit focused on the first Person of the Blessed Trinity.

Social Studies, we are examining the similarities and the differences between the 13 colonies.

Literature, we are reading *The Witch of Blackbird Pond*. Ask your child to describe Hannah.

Grade 8

Skills-The The students just took their unit 4 test. We are currently working on unit 5 now and will have a test before Christmas break. Their progressive reports will reflect the grade they receive on unit 3 and 4 tests.

Science- Thus far in our STEAM unit the students made bath fizzes. We are currently working on building a bridge out of popsicle sticks the can support two textbooks on it.

Math class has been working with equations and solving them using

integers and will be moving on to solving multi-step equations. In **Religion**, the class has recently finished a study of the Ten Commandments and will then will start a unit on Church history. **Social Studies**, we will be looking at the causes of the Civil War. **Literature**, we are reading *Little Women*.