



March 2021 Newsletter

Pastor's Message - Father Pat

In our Saint Francis of Assisi Catholic School family, March is a crucial time for our spiritual development. Faculty, families, and children prepare to celebrate our Christian faith in the Saving Love of Jesus. The Lenten season is a time to discipline ourselves so that we can truly understand the meaning of the Death and Resurrection of Jesus. In our school and home, we turn to God in prayer, thanking Him for suffering and dying so that our sins are forgiven and rising from the grave so we can live forever in His Eternal Presence. In school and home, adults and children call out in joy "Jesus has risen". In His name we have faith in His power as we turn to Him in prayer. We have hope that by God's providence we will see our loved ones in Heaven. We live our lives loving all God's children with kindness, caring, and forgiveness.





From Our Principal - Mrs. Sikora

Good Samaritans:

K-2 Hadley Heumann

3-5 Siyuri Lopez

Good Samaritans are selected based on demonstrated charity to others.

During this Lenten season I pray everyone takes time to reflect on the many blessings in their lives. I thank God for the health of my family and friends, for leading me to Saint Francis School and for the countless spiritual rewards my path has provided me.

Our roundup was a huge success, and we loved meeting the new families who will be joining us next year. Due to COVID, we used an appointment format and found that it worked smoothly. We decided to continue to use it in future years. The COVID caused us to make changes to the way we carry out daily activities, and we realized some of the new practices are more efficient.

K-5 teachers will begin sending home Spring Break Packets this week. As with Snow Day Packets, a choice menu has been provided for students to select four activities per day. Students will need to return completed packets, signed by parents, when they return to school on March 15.

I pray everyone has a restful Spring break and returns to school rejuvenated and eager to learn!





Preschool- Ms. Libby

Spring is in the air! In March we will study baby animals, the changing weather and St. Patrick, as we celebrate St. Patrick's Day. We are continuing on our way through the alphabet focusing on the letters S, T, U, and V. The children have been working hard on their letters, counting and shapes. I am so proud of our preschoolers!

We would like to wish Ruby Pauley and Evan Lively a very happy birthday this month! We would also like to wish Kennedy Pavlak a happy belated February birthday! I apologize for the mix-up last month!

Wishing everyone a safe and relaxing Spring Break!





Preschool - Ms. Burns

We are so excited to be able to play outside again! In February we have been busy learning about recycling and trash. We have created robots, binoculars, airplanes, puppets, and other fun toys with recycled materials. The children are so creative and work so well together! This month we will be exploring buildings and how they are made. Thank you to everyone for the sweet valentines! The children, Ms. Cindy, and I had a great day full of love!



Preschool - Ms. High

The St. Francis Kindergarten roundup was wonderful. The kids are so excited about going to kindergarten next year! We will continue to prepare for kindergarten by writing our names daily, learning the numbers 1-20, and recognizing the letters of the alphabet. I am so proud of all of their progress this year. This month we will begin the Buildings study. The children love learning through hands-on activities like building, stacking, and creating! We will end the month by learning about rocks. Spring Break is March 8th-12th. I hope everyone has a great week off! St. Patrick's Day is Wednesday, March 17th. Students can wear something green and enjoy some fun activities that day. I would like to wish a very Happy March Birthday to Charlie, Blake, and Arizona!





Kindergarten - Mrs. Lopez

We happily welcome March and we are excited for spring and warm weather. The Lenten season has begun, although the students did not get to attend ash Wednesday service, we did learn about it. They attended stations of the cross last Friday and they will attend one more time during lent.

We will have our spring break the week of March 8th. They will receive a spring packet this week with a choice menu similar to what we had for snow days. Please encourage your child to complete the spring packet for a special prize. I will be available next week so please let me know if you need anything.

In math, we are practicing recognizing and writing the numbers through 30, counting by 5's, and we are also identifying coins and their value. In phonics, we have almost finished the alphabet, and we already have lots of new readers! This is an exciting time for them when they begin reading. Please continue to have them practice reading and writing often. Thanks in advance for your help.

Happy birthday this month to Jack!!





First Grade - Ms. Potter

The students had a terrific time at their Valentine's Day Dance Party! They had so much fun dancing and enjoyed their special treat at lunch.

We would like to thank Mr. Josh for making the day special for the children! They were so excited to receive Valentine's Day cards from each other. Thank you parents for helping them get their cards ready and sending them to school!

In math, the students are continuing to practice addition and subtraction facts, measure line segments, divide shapes into fourths and halves, count pennies, dimes, and nickels and identify congruent shapes. They are also identifying a dozen and half dozen and using comparison symbols. Soon they will be measuring around the classroom to find things that are about one foot long.

In English, the students are learning how to classify sentences. They enjoy using whiteboards for the English lessons. They are also learning how to identify a complete sentence and a fragment. In the next few weeks, the students will be working on their writing skills. It is wonderful to see their progression in this area!

The children attended the Stations of the Cross on Friday. They did a great job listening to Father Pat go through each station. In class, they are working on lessons to help them understand the meaning of each station. They will learn how they can apply the lessons they are learning to their lives today.





Second Grade - Ms. Grishaber

Happy March! With only a few months left of our school year, I am so proud of the progress that we have made. We soon will begin multiplication so please continue to work with your child on their addition and subtraction facts when you can. It is something that I would say there is no such thing as too much practice! The same goes for time and money--practice, practice, practice. We are doing great! For reading, please continue to read at home and take AR tests when possible. We now have Maddy Hubbard, Franklin Latimer, Ava Pauley, and Josiah Stump who have reached their reading goal! Woohoo! Round of applause for those kiddos.

I am working with a few other wonderful people to make sure that we are going to be able to do First Reconciliation and First Communion as safely and as wonderful as it has been in the past. I will keep you updated on any dates or information that we decide. If you are needing your child Baptized, which needs to be done in order to fully receive the sacraments of Reconciliation and Communion, please contact the Rectory Office for further information on how to schedule that. Please let me know if you need anything, information or questions--anything! Have a wonderful month and an even more wonderful SPRING BREAK!

Love,

Ms. Grishaber





Third Grade - Mrs. Sikora

Third graders have been learning all about the continent of Antarctica and the experiences of people who stay there to collect scientific data or serve as support staff. Did you know that polar bears do not live in Antarctica (South Pole) and penguins do not live in the Arctic (North Pole)? In line with our 'chilly' theme, third graders began a book study on *Mr. Popper's Penguins*.

Father Pat has been visiting third graders weekly "Fridays with Father" to teach Religion and prepare them for First Holy Communion. The students enjoy his weekly visits just as much as he enjoys the students. They nosh on popcorn or snacks while they interact with him. Mrs. Ervin will be teaching a plant unit. Students will plant seeds and document their growth and development. We are also continuing to learn and master multiplication facts. It would be very beneficial if families could practice facts nightly with flash cards. It makes a HUGE difference.

During March the Caring Kids will continue to support Christ's Kitchen by collecting mixed vegetables, canned chicken and canned chili without beans.

We look forward to Mrs. Forrester's return on March 29th!





Fourth Grade Mrs. Martin

Fourth Graders have begun our Lenten Journey. We have painted cool prayer rocks and we are in the process of making a Lenten prayer book with a collage cover representing “All About Me.”

We are looking forward to our Spring Break and returning to school with the opening of “Martin Mart.” This will be a fun way of learning percentages, sales tax and practicing counting money. Martin Mart had to be delayed because of a few snow days and until we began our lesson on Sales Tax. The students are in the process of designing their dream house while practicing area and perimeter. We have also been practicing double digit multiplication and now division. Please continue drilling your child on their multiplication and division facts.

Daily practice with ST Math is very beneficial. Have a wonderful and safe March as we look forward to a happy and healthy spring. God Bless each and everyone from the fourth grade class.





Fifth Grade - Ms. Lodge

Happy March!

March will be a fun month! Our Spring Break is coming up quick on March 8th. Spring break will be from March 8th to March 12th. We will be sending home Spring Break packets for students to complete. The packet will include a chart of activities that will need completed. Each day, students may choose four different activities to work on. Please sign your student's packet to show completion before they return to school on Monday, March 15th.

Our third quarter ends on Wednesday, March 24th and Accelerated Reader goals are due at this time as well. I look forward to our entire class meeting their goals so we can all enjoy the DQ treat! Congratulations to This month, we will also be ordering our 5th grade t-shirts. Our class did an excellent job choosing a design.

Our class has been enjoying a book study on Frightful's Mountain with our Title I Reading teacher, Mrs. Casto. She has been doing a wonderful job with the class. The class did a WONDERFUL job on their President's Day Reports. We all enjoyed learning about many different presidents!

I hope everyone has a wonderful Spring Break and a Happy St. Patrick's Day!





*Happy
St. Patrick's Day!*