

Here's What's Been Going on in 1S! Week of September 10-14, 2018

Religion

This past week students attended the school Mass and reflected on the upcoming Sunday Gospel Reading. They were reintroduced to the Bible as God's holy storybook that is filled with many different stories, all telling about God's great love for His people.

The Second Step portion of the curriculum began with two different lessons regarding skills for learning. The lessons so far have been about whole body listening and focusing attention.

Math

Students began to work on addition skills. Next week we will move into our leveled groups to continue our study. On a related note, I invite any and all of you to encourage your child to practice math skills using the IXL.com site that was mentioned at Back to School Night. It's a wonderful way for your child to enhance skills at his/her own level. If you were unable to attend Back to School Night please look inside your child's Friday folder for login information. Thanks!

Language Arts

All students were a part of the **STAR testing** this past week. They did a fantastic job of working hard and trying their best. I am using the results of these tests, as well as the results of my own beginning of the year reading assessment, to form leveled reading groups which will begin soon.

First grade was introduced to their **Handwriting** book, reviewing various lines and practicing writing numbers correctly.

Students also had an opportunity to write about their favorite thing about fall in **Writing**. Their work will be on display soon.

High frequency words were reviewed and will continue to be throughout the year.

Social Studies

Students are powering through a beginning of the year pre-assessment. We are almost finished with it!

The first fire drill of the school year was practiced as well.

On a side note, students learned the Chicken Dance in honor of Oktoberfest. Ask your child about it!

Science

Students were introduced to Science this week through a Mystery Science experience designed to answer the question: "How do scientists know so much?" Students were encouraged to pay attention to ordinary things and ask questions about them.

The first unit of study, all about light and sound, began this week. Students explored vibration.

Art

Students explored their water color paints through painting fall leaves.

Emeka was our first Student of the Week!

Thank you!

Many thanks to all of you who attended Back to School Night. It was great to see so many of you! I apologize for not allowing time in the evening for a question and answer session. Please don't hesitate to email me with questions. If you were unable to attend, please look inside your child's Friday folder for the information that was sent home that night. Thank you!

Book Orders

If you would like to order from the recent book order, please do so by 4 PM on Monday. You can order online at Scholastic.com. **Our class code is: 2JH3R.**

Homework

I have to say that your child did a FANTASTIC job with their Student of the Week homework this past week. Emeka was so surprised, the look on his face priceless during his "Grand Finale" today! Thank you for your help in making this happen.

From here on out you can expect to find a Student of the Week paper inside your child's folder at the beginning of each week (except for 3 day weeks). That, combined with a Reading Log (I ask that students read with or to another person for ideally at least 10 minutes per day-that includes bedtime stories!), some sort of language arts sheet and a math sheet will come home. I also highly encourage your child to practice math skills using the IXL site when able. Homework in 1st grade should take no more than 20 minutes per night, half of which is spent reading. I completely believe that the kids need "down time," family time, rest and am aware of the possibility of other after school obligations. It is for that reason that I will send home a folder once a week so you can help your child find the times that work best for your family to complete the work.

Please let me know if the homework load ever becomes too much.

Raincoats and Snacks!

This is just a reminder to please send a waterproof jacket with your child each day between now and spring. The kids go outside daily, even in the rain. Whether it be that they are traveling to PE, the Chapel or the Playcourt, they do have the possibility of getting quite wet. Thank you to all of you who have already begun sending them!

Please also continue sending a snack for your child each day.

Have a great weekend everyone! Enjoy your time with your child!