



ST. MARY'S
Elementary School

November 16, 2016

Virtue of the Month: Gratitude

Regis Catholic Schools pick a virtue every month to study and highlight in all subject matters. We learn all about the virtue and do our best to employ in our everyday lives. November's virtue at St. Mary's is Gratitude.

- ◆ Gratitude is a feeling of thankfulness for blessings or benefits we have received. Grateful people are quick to acknowledge the kindness and help they receive from our Heavenly Father and others around them.
- ◆ Gratitude has three elements: acknowledgment that a gift has been received, appreciation expressed in thankfulness, and as far as possible some return for what has been freely given with no obligation on the donor's part.
- ◆ Where there is gratitude, there is courtesy: there is a concern for the happiness and well-being of others.

start each
day with
a
grateful
heart

PUPIL SERVICES WITH MRS. FOEGEN

I hope conferences went well and you were able to spend time with your child discussing what you learned. We are now in the process of screening our elementary students for areas of concern in their emotional wellbeing. This information will help us understand your child better and assist us in better meeting their needs of body, mind and spirit.

We are also continuing to focus on the concepts and areas connected with the Energy Bus. As we near Thanksgiving we give thanks for you allowing us to be a part of your child's life and assist them in shaping their future and the person they will become. We have much to be thankful for. The best way to contact me is per email: pfoegen@regiscatholicschools.com. Have a Blessed Thanksgiving.

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PRESCHOOL & 4K WITH MS. WENDY

The preschoolers have been exploring the 5 senses that God has given us. We will be playing a listening game to see if we know the familiar sound and, of course, having a taste test! We will conclude in early December with a book: *My Christmas 5 Senses!*

In 4K we are looking at the many aspects of clothes, such as the features, how we take care of them, how they are made and even where we get them. We are also talking about gratitude through several games and activities as well as making thank you cards for our neighbors across the street at the Emergency Services building!

Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good. His love endures forever.

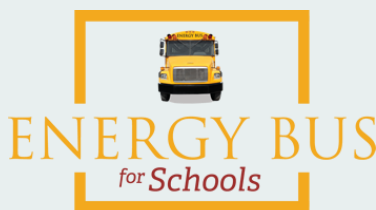
Psalms 136:1

Energy Bus Principle #2

Create a Positive Vision

*Spread Positivity
with Good Works*

- ◆ Set positive personal goals.
- ◆ Set positive academic goals.
- ◆ Become active participants in the learning process.



4K WITH MRS. CHRISTIANSON

In 4K we have started our Clothes Unit. We are so busy exploring different types of clothes and the various materials that are used to make clothes. We are working so hard on identifying the letters in our names and can't wait to start "signing in" with our name every day! We are continuing to do sound basket and learning a new letter and sound each week. The growth we have made so far in our letter identification is amazing!

KINDERGARTEN KAPERS

We are "gobbling up" some good books about the first Thanksgiving. A favorite character from this time is Squanto. What a friend to the Pilgrims! We will be remembering to be thankful for all we have during this season as we gather with family and friends for our Thanksgiving feast. We have been busy with counting activities, especially on our 50th day of school! We are learning more and more sight words, which is helping as we read simple books. Bible stories we are reading include *Jonah and the Whale*. May your blessings be many this Thanksgiving Day.

FABULOUS FIRST GRADE

The First Graders will begin learning about the First Thanksgiving. In the hallway they have displayed what they are thankful for. They have been practicing the virtues of good works and compassion by bringing in items for the Blessing Box. We hope you and your family have a very relaxing and blessed Thanksgiving!!!

THIRD GRADE THOUGHTS

In religion we are continuing our study of the liturgical calendar and symbols of the church. We will be learning more about the season of Advent and starting our Advent community service projects. Our virtue of the month is good works and gratitude. The Bible verse students memorize for the month is, "I will praise the name of God with song, and shall magnify Him with thanksgiving." Psalm 69:30

We welcome our UWEC block teachers back to our classroom through the first week of December. Miss McDougall and Miss Johnson have planned engaging units for reading, language arts, math, science and social studies. They are excited to be at St. Mary's for four weeks of teaching!

We recently started a novel unit with the book *Charlotte's Web* by E. B. White. Students are learning about inferences, character traits, plot, and summarizing.

In math, students have been learning different ways to show multiplication. We even got to use paint and Play Doh to represent a variety of multiplication equations! We welcomed five students into our rocket math multiplication club. Keep practicing those basic math facts!

FANTASTIC FOURTH GRADE

By the time you read this we will have accomplished the IOWA Basics Testing for Fourth Grade! Phew! Persistent children you have!

The next month will be filled with fun learning activities revolving around our Church's Liturgical year that ends with the Feast of Christ the King and begins with Advent! Students will reflect daily on Bible passages connected with the Jesse Tree. They will also be learning about the Beatitudes and memorizing the 10 Commandments.

Science will include studying earth sciences including the rock cycle and the processes that change our earth's landforms. In social studies students will be completing a Regions of our State poster with a partner. They will also learn about the early inhabitants of our state and what brought them here. Memorizing multiplication and division facts is the focus of math this month. Division with and without remainders and problem solving will be the new skills. In English, students will be showing the virtue of the month "Gratitude" by writing thank you letters to someone. They may be asking you for addresses if their note needs to be mailed. With that said, I am very grateful for my students and their parents this year! Thank you for sharing your children with me!

We're looking forward to seeing many of you at the Thanksgiving Feast!

SECOND GRADE SCOOP

The 2nd grade class is all done taking IOWA tests. Thank you to those families that provided good snacks during IOWA testing and food/supplies for our Halloween party. A BIG thank you to Mrs. Crow for our fun Halloween party.

We will be learning about the Pilgrims and the Wampanoag Indians. The 2nd graders are working on fact families in math and we have been working on S.T.E.M. activities. The students did a great job on disguising their turkeys. Have a Happy Thanksgiving!



FIFTH GRADE FUN

This is the time of year when we are reminded how truly grateful we are for all we have. As gratitude and good works are our virtues of the month, we have been talking about this topic. We are excited to begin our Advent project with our Tie Blanket Raffle and Thrift Sale this week. We are truly grateful for you and our wonderful classroom of children!!

The fantastic fifth grade is working on a novel unit with the book, *Hatchet*, by Gary Paulsen. This is a very exciting book about a thirteen year old boy surviving alone in the Canadian wilderness after a plane crash. We will discuss conflict, cause and effect, character types, setting, and theme.

In social studies, the students are learning about the first English colonies and the colonists relationship with the Native Americans. We continue to make our way across the United States learning about the various regions: the land, resources, and landmarks.

GUIDANCE WITH MRS. ESLINGER, SCHOOL COUNSELOR

Happy November! Our Energy Bus lesson for the month was about Principle #2: Creating a Positive Vision. It gave our students an opportunity to think about what kind of personal and academic goals that they want to achieve and the importance of writing them down or drawing them. **You're awesome, you're the best, you rock!**

The small groups are underway for the months of November and December. Small groups are a great way to foster positive relationships and practice skills we need to be good members of our family, school, and community. The small groups are taking place during our weekly guidance time for each classroom in grades 1-5. The small group topics include: friendship, sportsmanship, social skills, and listening. In Kindergarten we are learning about respect. The students will learn about all of the ways they can show respect to themselves, others, and the environment. Look for their completed activity sheets that will be coming home with them.

As parents and guardians, you know the needs of your child best. If your child is struggling academically, socially, or emotionally, and would benefit from meeting with me individually or being in a particular small group, please let me know!

Thank you for partnering in your child's education!

Please feel free to contact me with any questions and concerns by calling St. Mary's (M/W) or St. James (T/Th) or e-mail me at deslinger@regiscatholicschools.com.

Thank you for partnering in your child's education!

SPANISH WITH MRS. LARABEE

It is hard to believe it is November already. We started the month with Grade 4 celebrating Día de los Muertos for All Saints' and All Souls' Days. They taste tested a special Mexican bread and are finishing their cultural unit on the holiday. Grades K-3 are finishing their number and color units and will be moving on to body vocabulary. If you need them to burn off energy have them sing "Head, Shoulders, Knees and Toes" for you in Spanish. We will be reviewing a Hap Palmer version of The Itsy Bitsy Spider which also introduces some body vocabulary as the spider crawls up our bodies. See the link on my website. All grades are finishing their number timings. Grade 5 will be wrapping up their unit on Spanish speaking countries and explorers. By the end of the month they and Grades 3-4 will start a unit on Our Lady of Guadalupe. A favorite song next month will be "Feliz Navidad" by Jose Feliciano.



I am grateful for the opportunity to teach your children and wish you a wonderful Thanksgiving.

MUSIC WITH MRS. MECIKALSKI

In November, we will be preparing for our Christmas program "Christmastime Around the World". Students are learning Christmas songs from various countries. We will also be reviewing some singing and rhythm games.

St. Mary's program is January 4th at 6:30 p.m.

Remember to check the music web page to see when the 3-5 grade cantors are singing at mass.

ART WITH MS. LAROSE

Kindergarten: Seasons - Leaves and Snow Art

First: Snowscapes - Landscape and Layers

Second: Paste Paper Christmas Collage

Third: Value Project and Christmas Project

Fourth: Printmaking and Holiday Art

Fifth: Assemblage Art: Nativity Scene



When contacting me for any reason, please tell me which school and grade your student attends.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION WITH MRS. HOESCHEN

Happy Thanksgiving! I am so thankful to be teaching at St. Mary's. As we move into the second quarter, grades K-5 are working on their soccer units. Grades K-2 are developing their ball control skills through various dribbling, passing, throw-ins, and power kicking drills. Grades 3-5 are reviewing these fundamental skills through various drills. They will scrimmage in which kicking and passing with a purpose throughout the game is emphasized.

Congratulations Second Grade...Our Golden Sneaker Award winner! The trophy is displayed by the second grade lockers so be sure to stop by and congratulate them. All the classes are working hard to earn the trophy in their classroom. Please help your child remember to bring gym shoes and change of clothes for 5th graders.

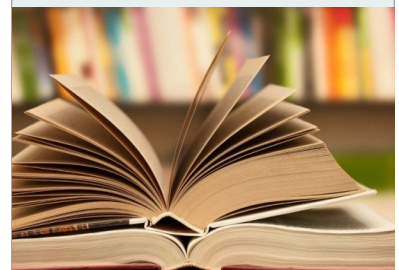
Here's the PE schedule:
K-2 Monday and Thursday
3-5 Wednesday and Friday



LIBRARY WITH MS. HOFFMAN

As we move into the second quarter of the school year, students in the library are learning what they like to read, what is new to them, and what their friends recommend. Because reading is the foundation for all other learning, library time is not only a time to learn how to use a library and its' resources but more importantly, how to find books you want to read and will enjoy. Students are learning where the picture books are, where information on animals and rocks and sports are, where joke books and I Spy books live, and how to find a good chapter book.

Encourage your child to share his/her library books with you each week.



HALO Awards

HALO stands for
Helping And
Loving Others.

The following
students in K
through 5th grade
have received HALOs
since our last
newsletter.

Hadley Anderson
Piper Anderson
Dylan Bilda
Josie Black
Austin Bollman
Kaylen Borst
Vivianne Braun
Chase Brogelman
Riley Catt
Ava Chase
Ellie Crow
Brody Duncan
Ray Fradette
Emilia Frank
Oliver Frank
Isabelle Goss
Keeli Kassing
AnaLyn Kostka
Casey Kostka
Katelyn Kovacevich
Piper Lueck
Jackson Nyberg
Gabby Oemig
Ally Roers
Bella Rose
Lucas Rosener
Hayden Schwebach
Braden Smiskey
Ethan Straw
Sullivan Vargo
Sawyer Webster
Cambrie Wold
Tenley Wold

COMPUTER SCIENCE WITH MR. HARDY

We are making like Babe Ruth and getting in the Swing of Things. Let's get our "technological literacy" on.

Kindergarten - Students are continuing with their own logins. We are going to start using Microsoft Word to get ready for our Thanksgiving thankful letter as well as our letters to Santa.

First Grade - Thankful Thanksgiving letters with pictures and font changes.

Second Grade - Intro to PowerPoint where we will be doing a Thanksgiving presentation.

Third Grade - PowerPoint Thanksgiving slideshow with transitions.

Fourth Grade - Working on Google Slides presentation about Thanksgiving.

Fifth Grade - Google Sheets assignment about the explorers. Graphs and charts with research about each.



On All Saints' Day the 4th graders presented reports on a chosen saint.

