



ST. MARY'S
Elementary School

October 19, 2017

Virtue of the Month: Faith

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. October's virtue is Faith.

- ♦ Believing in God's graces.
- ♦ Praying to God and believing in His will.
- ♦ Making us good moral people.
- ♦ Giving us support in hard times.
- ♦ Allowing us to see Christ in the Son of God.
- ♦ Believing in the Holy Trinity.
- ♦ Giving of ourselves to others in need.
- ♦ Attending Mass and participating in the Sacraments.

PUPIL SERVICES WITH MRS. FOEGEN

Fall is definitely here and we are coming up on Parent Teacher Conferences on October 26th. Sometimes we are not sure what questions to ask as the conference is driven by the results of our child's work. Because of our beliefs and attention to our students mind, body and spirit, we need to take an active role in the conference. The conference is not just for academic progress but also for the spiritual and social/emotional growth. Questions you may want to ask if the teacher does not bring it up might be:

1. How does my child fit in with the other students in their grade? Do they eat and play with others or are they more alone?
2. How has my child done in religion class - what kinds of things are you discussing and how are they reacting?
3. What kind of things can we follow through with at home?
4. Does my child contribute in class?
5. How is my child's behavior?
6. Tell me something you have learned about my child that makes them unique.

These are just some suggestions to see how your child is doing beyond just academics. I will be available to help or discuss any concerns or joys you may want to share. If you would like to meet with me please drop me an email at pfoegen@case.k12.wi.us. Enjoy the conference and remember to follow up with your child when it is done. I know they worry.

I will
WALK BY FAITH
even when
I can not see



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4K WITH MRS. CHRISTIANSON

We have been so busy in 4K. We were able to take a trip to the Fire Station and learn about fire safety and explore the vehicles. We also took a field trip to Ferguson's Apple Orchard to tie into our Tree Unit and learn about apples and how they grow. In our Tree Unit we will be learning about who lives in trees, what they're made from, and who cares for them. We will be doing "tree walks" so we can investigate trees and find items on the ground. We are continuing to learn the rules and expectations of school. In addition to our Tree Unit, we are focusing on learning the letters of our name and being able to write some or all of our own name independently.

God can restore what is broken and change it into something amazing. All you need is faith.

Joel 2:25

FABULOUS FIRST GRADE

The First Graders had a great time at the pumpkin patch. They used their field trip experience to write a narrative piece in Writer's Workshop. They have been learning how to subtract in math. We have been enjoying collaborating with the Third Graders in keeping the Blessing Box full! We have truly been great examples of Living Faith!



4K AND PRESCHOOL WITH MS. WENDY

In 4K we have been learning about Self-Talk and how we can tell ourselves to remember something such as repeating over and over or singing a song to remind us we are putting away our toys. Demonstrate how you use that in life and with your child. We've also talked about ways to solve our own problems such as asking, making a deal, taking turns, walking away or saying please stop.

We will be brainstorming how we can make a pumpkin patch in our classroom. What will we need? How can we make it? What should we add? What could we pretend? Watch for it to take shape this week...

The preschoolers have been talking about pumpkins at circle time. We explored them with our senses and talked about how they smelled, sounded, felt and looked. We haven't tasted yet. We enjoyed the song "Roly Poly Pumpkin" and tried rolling real pumpkins on the floor and down ramps during circle time last week. Lots of giggles!

SECOND GRADE SCOOP

The second graders had a great time at the Valley Pasture Farms and Pumpkin Patch. In science we are learning about bats and in social studies we are learning about different communities. This leads right into how we are a community at school and how being on the Energy Bus impacts our classroom. In math the students are working on surveys and graphing. IOWA Testing will begin on Monday, October 23rd. If you would like to contribute a healthy snack during testing please let me know.

THIRD GRADE THOUGHTS

In religion, we look forward to learning more about the Mass when Father Sakowski visits us each week. We have been talking about St. Paul and the books of the Bible he wrote. Each week we add the weekly Gospel reading to our "Growing in Faith" bulletin board to remind us of the lessons we should learn and keep close to our hearts. We also enjoyed celebrating the 100th anniversary of Our Lady of Fatima by praying the rosary as a class and coloring prayer cards with our first grade friends!

In science, third graders have been busy learning about seed dispersal and different ways seeds can travel away from their parent plant in order to grow in a new environment. We solved a science mystery involving Koa trees in Hawaii and Reunion Island. Students created three different models of seeds that travel through wind, and gathered data about which seed type was most likely to escape the "zone of darkness". We will be sharing our seed projects in late October.

In reading, students are working on analyzing character traits for their monthly book report. We are eager to share our characters made out of pumpkins during the last week in October. Students are also learning about cause and effect in various stories we have read this year. In language arts, we have been busy writing descriptive paragraphs. These descriptive paragraphs are designed to advertise a fairy tale house or spooky house created as an art project.

In math, we are reviewing regrouping procedures in addition and subtraction to the ten thousands place. We use base 10 blocks and place value charts to help us visualize each math equation being solved. Our morning math routine consists of mental math, A.D.D. (Arithmetic Developed Daily), rocket math basic facts, and a brain teaser related to the unit we are studying.

FANTASTIC FOURTH GRADE

Falbo's Fantastic Fourth Grade are saints in the making! Students are getting excited for All Saint's Day. They are working at school to create a poster to help them share the life of the saint they have chosen! Hard work and sacrifice will make heavenly projects. Students will conclude this project by determining what they can learn from their saint that will help them grow closer to Jesus.

Students will be wrapping up their Life Science Studies of Ecosystems. After studying food chains they will explore the purpose of decomposers to perpetuate the cycles of life. As students research the regions of Wisconsin and learn how the physical features and resources affect life in our state, they will create a group project. They will also learn about how glaciers from the Ice Age have shaped our state to prepare them for their Ice Age field trip in November.

In Math, as we continue practicing multiplication facts, we will be learning about addition and subtraction of larger numbers. Problem solving and using tables, graphs and charts will be a part of our weekly studies. Many of the activities for the Month of October will be more active and hands-on as students will begin the IOWA Basics Test on October 23.

Enjoy the gift of this beautiful autumn! God is so good!

KINDERGARTEN KAPERS

A little spooky and a bit of batty fun fill our room this month. Halloween has everyone's imagination working! Carving a pumpkin and counting all the seeds inside will turn into a math lesson. We have learned about Moses in the Bible and the story of "David and Goliath" is always a favorite! Reading is a blast when we learn new sight words and learning about a famous explorer (Columbus) has been a hit.

Have a
"spooktacular"
Halloween!



**ART WITH
MS. LAROSE**

Kindergarten:
Lines and Shapes

First:
Imaginative Monster
Collages - Pattern
and Shape

Second:
Symmetry
Lesson - Owls

Third:
Color and Value
Neighborhood
Painting

Fourth:
Printmaking and
Mixed Media

Fifth:
Embossing: Line,
Shape, and Color

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



FIFTH GRADE FUN

The fifth grade students were so excited to welcome Mrs. Lemke back to school this week! We thank Ms. Pennington for beginning the year with us and keeping fifth grade on track.

In social studies, the students are imagining life as explorers during the 15th century. We will be investigating some of the most famous explorers of the time. We recently wrapped up our unit on biomes and animal adaptations in science class. We look forward to entering the microscopic world of cells next week!

We are excited for our field trip to the Trempealeau National Wildlife Refuge next week!

LIBRARY WITH MS. HOFFMAN

During library classes this month, students were introduced to or reviewed how to access our ebook collection through MackinVia. There are a combination of books (both fiction and nonfiction), audiobooks, and websites. Some are multiuser and some are single user.

Each school will access their books through their school name. To access the Elementary collections: On the Elementary Homepage click on MackinVia under Quick Links or go to mackinvia.com. Type in the school name. (st james elementary, st marys elementary, immaculate conception elementary). Make sure you choose the Eau Claire school if there is more than one school with the same name. The User ID is the User Name the student uses to sign in to the school computers and the Password is the one used for signing in also. (User Id is grk, gr1, gr2, gr3, gr4 or gr5. Password is qwert for Kindergarten and Grade 1 and student for the other grades.) Your school's collection will show up. To the right, you can begin reading the book. Students at the elementary schools are only able to read not check out items since they do not have individual login ids.

There is also a free MackinVia app available for any tablet, smartphone, or iPod that allows apps, both android and Apple. Once you download it, the login and features are the same as on the computer.

RELIGIOUS APPS

This month we also looked at some free religious apps for both android and apple devices.

1. Divine Mercy App – This app is produced by the Marians of the Immaculate Conception. Information about St. Faustina and her life, how to say the Divine Mercy Chaplet, the Way of the Cross, and other Novenas and prayers are provided.
2. Mary App – This app is also produced by the Marians. Doctrine related to Mary, how to say the Rosary, Chaplets, and prayers devoted to Mary, and images and apparitions of Mary are provided.
3. The Pope App – Current news from the Vatican, videos, webcams, and other information related to the Pope and Vatican is provided.

GUIDANCE WITH MRS. ESLINGER, SCHOOL COUNSELOR

Happy Fall! These are busy times for students, parents, teachers, and school counselors. Remember to try and take time each day to connect with your child by asking them questions about their homework, reading together, or planning a special activity for just the two of you.

I had lots of fun kicking off the Energy Bus Principle #1: You're the Driver, "Let Faith Drive Your Actions" to all of the students during the first week of October. Students in grades 2-5 brought home a paper that explained the important points for the principle.

You're awesome, you're the best, you rock!

Guidance lessons in October will focus on conflict resolution in grades K-5. Students will be learning strategies for handling conflict. Your child will learn the DeBug system which is 5 steps that students use when someone is "bugging" them. It teaches problem solving, helps with tattling, and encourages them to solve problems on their own before asking an adult for help. When students solve small problems on their own, their confidence and problem solving skills grow.

The DeBug System:

1. Ignore....if it doesn't work (move to the next step)
2. Move Away
3. Talk Friendly
4. Talk Firmly
5. Tell an adult

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!

PHYSICAL EDUCATION WITH MRS. HOESCHEN

I love this time of year when the leaves are changing. In P.E. K-2 are working on throwing and catching fundamentals. Grades 3rd-5th are playing flag football. We are focusing on scoring- 7 points touchdown; positions-center and quarterback; possessions-offense and defense; and downs-4 attempts to score. The fifth graders will be concluding the unit with a quiz.

At the beginning of September, I introduced the Golden Sneaker Award. The class earns a star for having proper gym shoes. They can also earn a star for following these expectations: listening, following directions, being kind to others, moving safely, giving best effort, having positive attitude, and participating! This award is given each month to the class who has earned the most stars in P.E. The Golden Sneaker Award is displayed in the teacher's classroom for the entire month. Congratulations 5th Grade...our Golden Sneaker Award winner!

"Play 60" was sent home at the beginning of October. It is a program to encourage students to exercise a combined total of 60 minutes by adding up any exercise related activities such as recess, PE class, sports practice, dance lessons, a bike ride etc. The program will end on April 30, 2018. Be active! Be Fit! Be Healthy! Play 60!

Here's the PE schedule:

**K-2 Monday and Thursday
3-5 Wednesday and Friday**

**Please make sure your
child has proper gym shoes!**

MUSIC WITH MRS. MECIKALSKI

We have been singing Halloween songs with classroom instruments during the month of October. All students decorated music symbol pumpkins. Next we will be preparing for Veteran's Day and our Christmas program "Christmastime Around the World". Remember to check the music web page to see when the 3-5 grade cantors are singing at mass.

Energy Bus Principle #1

You're the Driver

- ◆ Take personal responsibility for your actions.
- ◆ Refrain from blaming or complaining.
- ◆ Feel empowered to take risks and make necessary changes to get the results you desire.



HALO Awards

HALO stands for
Helping And Loving
Others.

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

Braxton Albee
Aiden Anderson
Piper Anderson
Jane Black
Austin Bollman
Landon Bollman
Chase Brogelman
Jane Black
Tanner Chilson
Kellen Crow
Nash Cullinan
Brody Duncan
Adam Eaton
Ray Fradette
Emilia Frank
Isabelle Goss
Sylvia Harris Gore
Aurora Hedrington
Keylany Juarez Solis
Casey Kostka
Katelyn Kovacevich
Cullen Lueck
Piper Lueck
Alexis McCreary
Joseph McMenomy
Olivia Mueller
Paul Neighbarger
Ben Olson
Grace Olson
Aiden Rau
Ally Roers
Jacob Rubenzer
Easton Schrader
Ryan Semerad
Ava Skwierczynski
Braden Smiskey
Dominic Smiskey
Hazel Thurner

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 - Let's learn to use a mouse and keyboard. Students are starting with mouse skills using combinations of Tux Paint and coding. We have started to learn how to log on using Ctrl + Alt + Delete. As the year progresses we will get better at this and start logging off as well. Pieces and parts of a computer as well with the one we are taking apart.

First Grade - We are in Microsoft Word skills as well as learning how to touch type (using all fingers and not looking at keyboard).

Second Grade - Saving and opening files in Microsoft Word review with an additional understanding of the "Home" tab and being able to complete these skills in a set amount of time.

Third Grade - Creating our own folders to save files in. Windows Explore button, PowerPoint review.

Fourth Grade - Students have their computer login and Google login. Starting to learn to use Drive and Classroom and finding information on the internet as well as using the explore button in Google Docs.

Fifth Grade - Drive and Classroom review, performing research in Google Suite, scaffolding of skills from STEM subjects into the computer lab to reinforce knowledge.

SPANISH WITH MRS. LARABEE

It is October and we have had a good start to the school year. Grades 1-5 are enjoying competing with their grade levels at all 3 buildings with their number timings. Kindergarten is learning to count from 1-15. First Grade counts 1-30; Second Grade counts 1-50; Third grade counts 1-100; and Grades 4 counts by 10's to 200 and Grade 5 counts by 10's and then 100's to 1,000. *The Number Macarena* by Dr. Jean in Spanish has been a favorite. All grades have enjoyed learning or reviewing colors as well. The song *Head Shoulders Knees and Toes* will be sung in Spanish. Fourth Grade has started their unit on The Day of The Dead which is a form of what is called Folk Catholicism that includes All Saints Day and All Souls Day. They are coloring calavera masks and calaca (skeleton) puppets that will be displayed in each school's hallway. They will be taste testing sugar cubes and pan de muerto, which is a soft sweet bread made specifically for the holiday. Fifth Grade has started a unit on Spanish Speaking Countries that includes discussing the pros and cons of Christopher Columbus and Spanish explorers in general. They will enjoy 'swatting the fly' on different countries on a map for practice.

