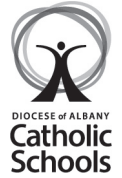




St. Francis de Sales School Times



Some Notes from January 2012

In Pre-K...we

- ✦ are learning how to keep our bodies healthy and strong by eating good foods, resting, exercising, and keeping clean.
- ✦ started our alphabet book – working on phonics/poems.
- ✦ are working on dressing for winter weather...zipping, snapping, buckling, - staying warm.
- ✦ are learning how to follow Jesus in our SEEDS program.

In Kindergarten...we

- ✦ received new handwriting books filled with fun activities to improve our printing techniques.
- ✦ estimated and measured length and width of objects.
- ✦ read stories that help develop an understanding of problems and solutions.
- ✦ reflected on the Gospel theme of healing and forgiveness.


In First Grade...we

- ✦ started a science unit about properties of matter.
- ✦ completed a health unit about important body parts and learned ways to keep them healthy.
- ✦ enjoyed stories and poems about sharing with friends, then wrote stories about a special friend
- ✦ read about Martin Luther King, Jr. and wrote our dreams for the world.

In Second Grade...we

- ✦ are preparing for our First Reconciliation March 10th.
- ✦ are completing a unit on Space and creating a final poster of our solar system.
- ✦ celebrated the Chinese New Year with a food festival after learning their customs and traditions.
- ✦ learned about the Big Panda Bear including its habitat diet, size, behavior and status.


In Third Grade...we

- ✦ are learning about the compass rose to help us understand direction. 
- ✦ continued our study of communities and why people settle where they do.
- ✦ read stories about real disasters, such as the Titanic, and then wrote a review of a real disaster.
- ✦ learned different kinds of prayer in religion.
- ✦ are working hard on telling time and counting money.

In Fourth Grade...we

- ✦ are reading The Indian and the Cupboard.
- ✦ are working on our Native American projects/reports and are also learning how their lives changed with the arrival of European settlers.
- ✦ made hands and then put our dreams for a better world on each finger in religion.
- ✦ are learning to organize notes into essays with paragraphs that have a logical progression of thought.


In Fifth Grade...we

- ✦ discussed Civil Rights and politics – primaries, caucuses and presidential candidates in current events.
- ✦ are studying about factors that cause our weather conditions. 
- ✦ practiced listening skills using social studies and science articles, then transcribed notes into paragraph form.
- ✦ designed "Da Da" art, using miscellaneous items to create wacky sculptures.
- ✦ are learning about the sacrament of Holy Orders.

In Sixth Grade...we

- ✦ had great discussions in current events and are starting our unit on Ancient Greece in social studies.
- ✦ learned about body systems – healthy relationships and good choices.
- ✦ are rewriting fairy tales from the point of view of a particular character.
- ✦ culminated our reading theme unit "Imagination at Work" by completing a project showcasing each student's creative talent.

Technology & Library

Computer classes have been working on mastering their keyboarding skills. Older students will be producing powerpoint slideshows on what Catholic Schools Week means to them. In library, we have been discussing authors & illustrators in the younger grades...exploring nonfiction books and the Dewey Decimal System in the upper grades. The book fair should warm-up the reading fever! 


Notes from the Music Room

This month, we began exploring the secret code of music theory. Additionally, students engaged in listening to, interpreting with movement, and verbally describing music of varying style. Upper grades considered how qualities of visual art can be expressed musically. Pre-k composers created original story-songs from action photos.

This past month in class we played both pool noodle hockey and floor hockey. The older grades played floor hockey after an overview of the game rules and some safety rules. The younger grades used pool noodles to work on their hand-eye coordination.

Coach's Corner 

February Upcoming Events/Schoolwide Information – Mark Your Calendars!

- ★ **Catholic Schools Week** will be celebrated January 29th – February 5th.
- ★ St. Francis De Sales School turns 91 on **February 1st**. Happy Birthday to us! 
- ★ **Open House/Scholastic Book Fair** will be on February 1st from 5:00 - 7:30. All are welcome!
- ★ Las Vegas magician Christian Augustine presents **Math Magic** to pre-k 4s – 6th grade on February 3rd.
- ★ **Report Cards** for kindergarten – 6th grade will be sent home on February 3rd.
- ♥ **Valentine's parties** in the classrooms on February 14th.
- ★ **No school** February 20th – February 24th for mid-winter recess.

Faith. Academics. Service.
Catholic Schools

Catholic Schools Week
January 29th – February 5th

Catholic Schools Week is an annual national celebration of the important role that Catholic elementary and secondary schools across the country play in providing a values-added education for America's young people. Catholic schools are proud of their educational network that emphasizes intellectual, spiritual, moral, physical, and social values in their students.

The school events for our students are listed below.

January 30th ★ St. Francis T-Shirt/Sweatshirt Day
★ Students will be served a light breakfast in the church hall.

January 31st ★ Beach Day

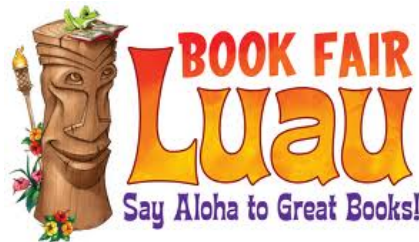
February 1st ★ Patriotic Day
★ Open House/Book Fair

February 2nd ★ Mismatch Day

February 3rd ★ Favorite Team/Sports Day
★ Math Magician performance.



Come to Our



Book Fair Family Event
February 1st
5-7:30 PM



Pre-K and Kindergarten
Information/Registration Night



Wednesday, March 7th, 2012
(snow date – Thursday, March 8th)
6:30-7:30 PM

For more information, call 866-4831.

Monthly Raffle

Congratulations to our January winner!
Christine Melo

