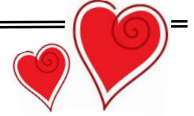




St. Francis de Sales School Times



Notes from February 2011

In Pre-K...we

- ✦ learned about our five senses and discussed our feelings when we feel happy, sad, angry or mad.
- ✦ made hats like Presidents Washington and Lincoln.
- ✦ enjoyed our school's 90th birthday celebration with cake and ice cream in our classroom.
- ✦ received new toothbrushes after learning about good dental health.

In Kindergarten...we

- ✦ identified and recorded numbers through 31 on a calendar & solved problems by performing probability experiments and making tally marks to record data.
- ✦ learned how missionaries work with God's children throughout the world.
- ✦ completed our A-B-C Journals and Pattern Portfolios.
- ✦ shared smiles, cards, and LOVE on St. Valentine's Day.

In First Grade...we

- ✦ learned about Chinese New Year customs, snacked on fortune cookies and Chinese noodles, and created our own Chinese dragons and lanterns.
- ✦ practiced skip counting by 2s, 5s, and 10s in math.
- ✦ celebrated the 100th day of school with literature, writing, math activities & a special 100th day snack mix.
- ✦ learned about Abraham Lincoln and George Washington.

In Second Grade...we

- ✦ celebrated Chinese New Year with first grade through art, stories, videos, and food.
- ✦ wrote peace poems, created "Earth" pictures, and shared prayers for world peace.
- ✦ began cursive writing lowercase letters.
- ✦ added and subtracted 2 digit numbers with regrouping.
- ✦ learned about Picasso in art.

In Third Grade...we

- ✦ are learning about different communities in the United States and around the World in social studies.
- ✦ began testing on our multiplication facts.
- ✦ learned about our Journey with Jesus –respect for all people with the Human Bill of Rights.
- ✦ are reading about simple machines in science.
- ✦ did a Valentine's project with the pre-k 3 year olds.

In Fourth Grade...we

- ✦ examined 7 soil samples with our magnifying glasses, and wrote observations in our science journals.
- ✦ made a model of a glacier using corn starch.
- ✦ made creation mandalas in religion class.
- ✦ are reading Sideways Stories From Wayside School.
- ✦ studied colonial times and made a "Horn Book".
- ✦ are in the process of writing personal narratives.

In Fifth Grade...we

- ✦ completed the Columban Mission Program which taught us respect for different faith traditions, as well as our own Christian traditions.
- ✦ learned about Benjamin Franklin's 1st political cartoon and discussed the importance of political cartoons today.
- ✦ read Call It Courage and discussed character change.
- ✦ are learning about expository text writing and wrote an essay about what life would be like without electricity.

In Sixth Grade...we

- ✦ worked on reports, projects and skits on Greek and Roman mythology in social studies.
- ✦ are reading selected books on the Holocaust.
- ✦ completed a unit on nutrition in health.
- ✦ researched "pop art" and made our own Andy Warhol drawings of everyday art objects.
- ✦ learned about Isaac Newton's Law of Motion in science.
- ✦ read and discussed the historical novel, The Slave Dancer.

Technology and Library

Students in grades 3-6 have been putting together Snowman books and powerpoint presentations. We have been fine tuning our editing and creative keyboarding skills. The younger grades have been learning keyboarding and computer language basics. Library classes have been learning about different styles of poetry as well as famous poets, with grades 3-6 writing a little poetry of their own.

Notes from the Music Room

February was a month to move! We danced partner songs, marched to a steady beat, and did improvisational movements to music of varying style and tempo. Dance trains the ear to rhythm and beat, reinforces sequencing and allows creativity and expression. Choosing and moving with a partner promotes basic etiquette and fosters respect and civility.

Coach's Corner

This past month we played many different games including dodgeball games, strategy games, and finished with our hockey unit. We also did different kinds of races with the younger classes. Some of them included getting up off of the gym floor without using their hands, and races with the students using all fours!

March Upcoming Events/Schoolwide Information – Mark Your Calendars!

- ❖ Parent Information Night for First Reconciliation and Eucharist on March 1st at 6:30 PM in the church.
- ❖ Family Fun Night for grades 1, 2, 3 on March 4th at 6:00 PM.
- ❖ Pre-k and Kindergarten Registration/Information Night on March 8th between 6:30 PM – 7:30 PM.
- ❖ Ash Wednesday is on March 9th. There will be a School Mass at 9:15 AM. 2nd & 4th grade will do the readings.
- ❖ First Reconciliation on March 12th at 11:00 AM in the church.
- ❖ Our Lenten Service Project will be a food drive sponsored by the Herkimer County Hunger Coalition. Our students can participate by bringing in macaroni and cheese from March 14th – March 31st.
- ❖ No school on March 18th due to a superintendent's conference day.
- ❖ Scholastic Book Fair Events will be March 23rd and March 26th. Details below.
- ❖ Award winning storyteller, Jonathan Kruk, will give performances for pre-k 4s – 6th grade on March 25th.

Visit our school website – www.stfrancisherkimer.org for Event Pictures and more...

Pre-k and Kindergarten Information/Registration Night



March 8th, 2011
(Snow date: March 10th)

6:30 PM to 7:30 PM
(Adults Only)

We offer the following pre-k programs:

- ☆ Two year olds
- ☆ Three year olds
- ☆ Four year olds (half-day)
- ☆ Four year olds (full day)

Along with the tradition of quality education, high expectations and accountability, our school offers your child a learning environment that promotes Christian values. In addition to a strong academic curriculum, your child will benefit from:

- ✓ Daily Religion Classes (pre-k 4s – 6th grade)
- ✓ Music Class (pre-k 4s – 6th grade)
- ✓ Physical Education (pre-k 3s – 6th grade)
- ✓ Technology Education (kindergarten – 6th grade)
- ✓ Library Class (pre-k 3s – 6th grade)
- ✓ Educational Field Trips (pre-k 4s – 6th grade)
- ✓ History of Outstanding Academic Performance of Alumni in High School & College

We received a THANK YOU from the Ronald McDonald House for our last donation - 26 lbs. of pop tabs. Please continue to send in your pop tabs, ink cartridges, soup labels and box tops.

COME ONE, COME ALL
to our



March 23rd ...K - 6th Event at 6:00 PM

March 26th... Pre-k & K Event at 9:00 AM

St. Francis de Sales School Library

Save the Date



Spring Dreams Auction

May 6th, 2011

Auction Preview begins at 6:00 PM

Live Auction begins at 7:00 PM

Francesca's - Ilion, NY

details to follow



Monthly Raffle Winner

Congratulations to our February winner!

Jay Valent