



Kindergartners in the News

October 13, 2011

Dear Families,

During October, the boys and girls will learn about the rosary. This week the Kindergartners were introduced to the names of the prayers that are said when we touch the beads on the rosary. (The boys and girls do not have to say the prayers.) We will practice the pattern of prayers often.

We will have "Rosary Day" at the end of October or beginning of November. On this day, each child will meet with me individually and tell me which prayers are said while touching each bead. (They do not have to know the words to the prayers, but need to know the names of the prayers we say when we touch each bead.) After meeting with me, each child will "earn" a rosary to take home and keep.

During our prayer circle-time, we have started to learn the "Hail Mary" prayer. Soon the boys and girls will learn the "Glory Be" prayer.

This week we learned the letter name and sound for the letters "F" and "f". We also practiced writing these letters. Please reinforce the sound and name (capital and lower-case), with your child, that corresponds with each letter that we meet. The extra reinforcement is very important as the children have more letters and sounds to discriminate between as we continue to meet more letters. To date, we have learned the sound and name for the following letters: A, a, C, c, F, f, P, p, T and t.

For our Math lessons this week, the boys and girls practiced counting and identifying numbers 0-30, counting by fives up to 30 and counting by tens up to 30. Please reinforce these math concepts with your child at home. This practice is very beneficial for your child.

Wednesday was our 30th day of school! We listened to the "Zero the Hero" song and marched around the room counting to 100. "Zero the Hero", our imaginary friend, sent a treat for the Kindergartners which was 30 Skittles for each student. The Kindergartners divided their Skittles into groups of five. We then practiced counting by fives up to 30.

Attached is a Dot-to-Dot Count to 30 homework paper. The homework is due back to school by Monday. Please help your child complete this homework. Coloring the picture is optional.

Yesterday we made a graph of who we thought would win the University of Michigan vs. Michigan State football game. We began by having each child cut out a paper football. Next, each football was placed on the graph, one at a time by each student, for the team he/she thought would win the game.

As each Kindergartner placed their football on the graph, which was hanging up on the chalkboard, every Kindergartner colored a square on their "The Big Game" graph sheet. Most Kindergartners voted for the University of Michigan. Your child brought home "The Big Game" graph sheet yesterday. This was a fun (and noisy) activity as the boys and girls cheered for their favorite team when a football was added to the graph.

On Monday, the Kindergartners and 4-year-old PreSchoolers will go together to Steffens Orchards in Sparta. We will ride the Catholic Central bus, along with our parent chaperones, to

the orchard. During our trip, we will have apple and pumpkin education, ride a tractor shuttle into the orchard, pick one apple and one pumpkin to take home, and enjoy an applesauce cookie and cider for a snack.

Our parent chaperones for our trip will be Lucia Agcaoili, Karen Cook, Keith Cook, Erin Greenop, Jill Lauria, Stacie Lauria, Kara Potter, Mary Jo Rabaut, Grandma Mulder, and Jodie Sager. Please remember that any adult who joins us for our field trip has to have Virtus training provided by the diocese.

CHAPERONES, PLEASE COME TO OUR CLASSROOM AT 9:15AM ON MONDAY. We will board the bus to leave at 9:20AM. You may want to bring a camera as well as money if you are interested in buying “goodies” from their market. We will return to school at about 12:15PM.

AS WE WILL BE OUTSIDE FOR MOST OF THE MORNING DURING OUR FIELD TRIP, PLEASE DRESS YOUR CHILD FOR THE WEATHER. He/she may want to wear old shoes or boots as we will walk through the orchard and pumpkin patch. Mrs. Steffens said often the grass is wet in the orchard. If you have any questions about our trip, please contact me.

As the weather is getting cooler, please have your child wear a warm coat or sweater to school each day. All Kindergartners should dress for the weather as we sometimes go outside for morning recess. The all-day Kindergartners will go outside for lunch recess each day from 11:10AM - 11:40AM, weather permitting.

Please label your child’s coat, sweater, hat, etc. This really helps when we are trying to determine what clothing article belongs to which child.

Attached to this newsletter are directions and a paper pumpkin for our October Family Project. Have fun decorating the paper pumpkin together as a family. Please contact me with any questions.

Regina Wilson and Stacie Lauria have volunteered to be our head room parents. Thank you for sharing your time and talents with us!

Regina, Stacie and other parent volunteers will organize the craft, game, drink, snacks and anything else needed for our Halloween party. Thank you to all who volunteered to help with our first classroom party which will be held on October 31st at 1:50PM.

At school we are working on doing our best, patience, waiting our turn, listening, and cleaning up after ourselves. Please reinforce these skills at home to help your child have a successful school year.

Needed items for our classroom:

- Halloween stickers
- snack-size plastic zipper bags
- sandwich-size plastic zipper bags

If you are able to donate any or these items, please send them to school at your convenience.