



Fifth Grade Newsletter

Feb. 6-10, 2012

- Decorative Door Contest Jeans Day on Monday, February 6th
- Mission Jeans Day on Friday, February 10th
- BizTown field trip Monday, February 13th

Religion: We have continued with the Glorious and Luminous Mysteries of the Rosary. We are using several study strategies to help the children learn the meaning behind each mystery. Please encourage your child to study his/her Power Notes study guide some each night. Following this unit, we will begin our study of saints.

Reading: Mrs. Schaffer's and Mrs. Alsin's classes have been working on using schema and inferring comprehension strategies. Mrs. Behrens class has started new guided reading groups. Her class will work on the comprehension strategies following guided reading.

English/Spelling We have continued to work on our Descriptive Writing/Adjective unit. We learned about articles and demonstratives as well as comparative and superlative adjectives. Next week we will take the Adjective Assessment on Wednesday. Following the assessment we will spend time on incorporating adjectives as well as figurative language into our writing. We will write puns for valentine cards, we will search for examples of onomatopoeia in the comics section of the newspaper, we will literally interpret and illustrate idioms, we will create tongue twisters using alliteration, we will write similes and metaphors, and finally we will incorporate all of our new descriptive writing skills into a writing piece. Our Spelling list for next week includes words that include vowel sounds paired with an r. Please continue to refer to www.spellingcity.com for Spelling practice.

Science: We have turned our focus in class to learning about the Sun. We worked on highlighting and discerning which information is important when reading larger bodies of text. Ask your child if they are "highlighter happy!" We also took notes over the sun presented in a DVD with Bill Nye. Next week, we will be doing some experiments that support the whys behind sunspots and the brightness of the sun. No test is scheduled yet. Please encourage your child to study their notes nightly.

Social Studies: The kids have started working in their BizTown businesses this week. The kids came up with a creative name for their business, applied for a business loan at the BizTown bank and created advertisements for their businesses for the radio station and the magazine. Next week, they will make ads for the website and video as well as fill out their first deposit ticket and write their first check. We are so excited for our trip to BizTown on the 13th!

Math: We are continuing to study graphs and diagrams. This week we learned about double bar graphs and histograms. Next week we will learn about problem solving using graphs, finding mean, median, mode, and range, as well as line graphs.