

Dear Parents,

The children were wonderfully behaved and fully participated in mass today. For the first in person mass in a long time, we were very impressed! They were all so respectful and well behaved. Then we returned to class and completed our last MAPS test for the Fall.

Safety seems to be the word for the month of October. We had our first fire drill on Wednesday, which went very well, and our first earthquake drill will be on October 21st when we participate in the Great Washington ShakeOut Drill. This next week on Friday, we will be Empowering God's Children Teaching Safety Class. The Third grade focus in the fall is Physical Boundaries: Safe and Unsafe Touching Rules. As always, you have the option to opt out (form is attached to the email) or we can send you the materials to teach your own child. If we don't hear back from you with the opt out form by Tuesday, we will assume you are okay with the class being taught by us to your child.

Our gradebooks are finally set up and we have begun putting grades into PowerSchool. We try to update them regularly. Please make it a point to check PowerSchool at least once every two weeks. Some assignments are not graded and we just put them in as collected. Others will receive a grade. If your child has a missing assignment it will be marked as missing and they have every opportunity to complete the assignment. We also put comments in for some assignments that may need further work. And students can resubmit them for an improved score.

We will be learning about Climate and Climate zones this coming week in our IB unit. Students will be creating a travel poster in class on Wednesday and Thursday. They will be choosing a location they would like to travel to and researching the climate and other information. They will illustrate a picture of themselves in that place including information they find out. Students will bring them home to share with you on Thursday. If they are not finished, then it will be their homework that night to complete. They will return it on Friday to share with the class.

Next week, we will be learning about St. Luke. St. Luke is the patron saint of artists and we decided to make that our theme for the St. Luke a thon. A flier will be coming home after our discussion with the children with some wonderful ways the children and you could embrace this theme. In class, we will be making a palette to carry but the flier will give many more ideas on how you could add to their costume.

Make sure to put October 15th on your calendar as that is a staff inservice day and students will have the day off. Also, we will be going to Mass again on the 22nd of October so those students who are participating in Free Dress Fridays in October can have their free dress on Thursday October 21st.

Have a wonderful weekend.

Blessings,

Susan Smith and Valerie Sheehan