

Dear Parents,

Next week is Halloween! Our room parents have our party planned and we are trying to incorporate the Halloween theme throughout the day. We have been inquiring about "Day of the Dead" in reading class and will be watching "The Book of Life," rated PG, and coloring sugar skulls on Halloween. Remember the children can wear their costumes to school but please no weapons, face paint, or hair color.

As we finish up our weather and climate inquiry we have moved to look at Global Warming's effect. We had a wonderful workshop on plastic and how it is affecting the ocean. Then after learning a little about global warming and its effect on our world, the children will begin their own research into a topic of their choosing. The topics have to be focused on how God has called us to be caretakers of this world, what is the problem we see happening, and how we can take action to combat this problem. After learning about different problems that global warming has caused on our planet, students in Mrs. Sheehan's class narrowed their focus to one aspect of what is affected by this change. Mrs. Smith's class will be doing the same in the coming days. The different areas of focus so far are the bee population, endangered species (pandas, Siberian tigers, snow leopards), deforestation, rising sea levels, and plastic in the ocean. After conducting research, the children will present their findings and create an action plan.

We took our first math test today. This means that we start a new unit next week. We are moving into our units on multiplication and division. Now is the time to get all of the addition and subtraction facts memorized because we will be adding multiplication and division facts in the coming months. We would like all students to have completed Addition and Subtraction fact fluency on Moby Max by the end of the trimester which is only 5 weeks away.

We began teaching our bullying prevention unit this week. Both classes have had wonderful discussions about recognizing bullying and learning how to report it. We will continue with the lessons next week. Many times when we begin discussing bullying, strong feelings emerge. Please take the time to discuss the homelinks that are coming home and keep the discussions going at home. This unit gives students the opportunity to really think about how they interact with each other and what it means to be a kind, respectful classmate. Most importantly, we want your child to know that we are here to make sure they are safe, respected, and listened to at school.

November is a hectic month. Here is a list of important dates to remember.

- Tuesday Nov. 1st All Saints Day Mass @ 9:30
- Picture Retakes and Class pictures Wednesday, Nov. 2nd
- Coffee and Curriculum with Mrs. Roach and Mrs. Hand Monday, Nov. 7th, 8:30-9:30
- Clothing Drive - Nov. 7th through the 18th. Please send in warm clothing
- Veteran's Day Assembly Nov. 10th ~ Time to be determined so stay tuned
- Book Fair runs from Nov. 11th - Nov. 23rd
- Student-led conferences Monday, Nov. 21st - Wednesday, Nov. 23rd. These will be in person. Sign-ups coming soon.
- Sunday, Nov. 27th Advent begins
- End of the first trimester Friday, Dec. 2nd ~ All missing work must be completed.

Have a wonderful weekend,

Susan Smith and Valerie Sheehan