

Dear Parents,

The season of Lent is here. We began the week reflecting on the season and the opportunities to grow closer to God. Students reflected and chose three things for their Lenten promise, one for prayer, one for giving, and one for fasting. During Lent, we learn about a virtue and a Saint that exemplifies this virtue. This week we are learning about charity and Saint Vincent DePaul. What a perfect time to learn about Saint Vincent De Paul's work for the poor. Opportunities for giving and to be like him are all around this Lenten season. One way students can give during Lent is to give to the rice bowl. Another way is to bring food for the food drive, which will begin soon. The school is partnering with the Parish for another service project that benefits the residents of The Josephinum in downtown Seattle. You can help by picking up a list of non-perishable items and a green bag at weekend Masses. Please collect the items and then return them to the church. Our 7th-grade students and volunteers from the parish will take these bags to the Josephinum on Friday, March 17th. Participating in this project works for giving during Lent and students' service hours.

As a part of our study of the regions of the United States, the children will be creating a state float (suitcase). The state float or suitcase will be completed at home, but the note-taking for the project will be done during reading class time. Each child will read a book about their state and complete an AR test or another comprehension activity if an AR test is unavailable. For each state float or suitcase, the children have items that must be included. Attached is a copy of the state float (suitcase) directions and a rubric for how they will be graded. The projects are due on Monday, March 13th.

Students have finished drafting the chapters of their information book. We have spent some time revising, elaborating, and editing. Next week, students will be writing their final draft with them due by Friday, March 3rd. The following week we will begin our next unit, "Changing the World: Persuasive Speeches, Petitions, and Editorials," where students will write opinion pieces.

Upcoming Events

2/28 - Safe Environment Training 6:30 (details below)
3/2-4 - MYP Performance - 7:30 pm
3/3 - Information book due
3/6 - Third Grade visits church with Father Brad
3/8 - Region Presentations begin
3/10 - Teacher In-Service - NO SCHOOL
3/13 - Lenten Reconciliation Service
State projects DUE
3/17 - End of Food Drive
3/24 - Report Cards
3/31 - FREE DRESS DAY!

Enjoy the chilly weekend,

Susan Smith and Valerie Sheehan