

# Kindergarten Times

October 10, 2017

Dear Families,

We hope you enjoyed the long, holiday weekend. The weather was so enjoyable for this time of year! During the next few weeks, our routine will be slightly changing. The Walk-a-Thon, our field trip to Confreda Farms, pumpkin painting, and the Witch's Brew Halloween Celebration will keep us very busy!

I was extremely proud of our class during Mass last week. Their behavior was outstanding!!!! This was the first time we attended Mass using a buddy system with the 8th graders and it worked out beautifully. The respect and maturity we observed in our 8th grade students was impressive, and we are so delighted to have such wonderful role models for our little ones.

This week in reading, the big book is *Please, Puppy, Please!* This is a realistic fiction story and we'll talk about how pets can be an important part of our lives and families. We will be reading about caring for and playing with a new pet. Story structure; telling the setting, characters, and events in the story, will be the focus. We'll also read *I Have a Pet*, another realistic fiction story about a group of children telling about the different kinds of pets they have; dog, cat, bird, hamster, and lizard. They discuss what their pets are like, why they like their pets, and how they take care of them.

A fun activity to do together is to see how many pets your child can name. Begin by saying "dog." Take turns naming pets. Then ask your child to say a sentence telling something the pet might do, such as, "The dog eats a treat!"

The word wall words are **the** and **can**. We will be reviewing the letters **Uu, Vv, Ww, Xx, Yy** and **Zz**. Synonyms, words that have the same or almost the same meaning, will be introduced. Nouns for animals and things will be reviewed.

We have begun using Decodable Readers every week as part of our reading program during morning rotations. This week, copies of two books are going home on Wednesday to be read each night for homework. The first book, *Baby Bear's Family*, is a picture story. Have your child tell you his or her own story about the pictures, encouraging them to speak in complete sentences. The second book is called,

*The Party*. As your child reads this book to you, have him or her point to each word as it is read. This will help your child understand the concept of print.

Please continue to review all the word wall words. You will find them in your child's folder weekly. Hopefully this is a good system to transport the index cards without losing them. The students will be coming to the word wall individually and will be asked to say the words as we point them out. The children who know all the words seem to be doing their review at home. It is important now more than ever to continue to review the words at home because it helps them so much in the classroom. It is so exciting to see them recognizing these words in all the books we read in class, whether it is in reading time, story time, or even in religion!!!!

Chapter 2, *Geometry and Patterns*, begins this week! In this chapter, children will explore common plane (two-dimensional) and solid (three-dimensional) figures, both as abstract shapes and in real life. They will predict what shape or real-life object is likely to come next in patterns involving color, shape, and size. This week, the children will learn about cylinders, cones, and spheres. This chapter is one of our favorites!

This week's religion lesson is "God Gives Us the Land" The lesson will focus on how God filled the land with many gifts. We will talk about how we take care of God's land and how we can share God's gifts.

On Thursday afternoon, students in kindergarten and Grade 2 will enjoy an **ice cream sundae party** with Mrs. Tetzner and Father Sisco for their fantastic 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> place wins! Both classes collected a huge amount of personal hygiene items for the St. John Paul II Food Pantry. Thank you!

Our field trip to **Confreda Greenhouses and Farms** in Cranston, RI is on Monday, October 23<sup>rd</sup>. Any parent is welcome to chaperone this field trip. We ask that you use your own vehicle and follow the bus so all those who wish will be able to go. Car-pooling has worked in the past, and hopefully this is an option for you. We will have directions available for your convenience. **All chaperones need to complete a background check and a safe environment form in order to volunteer.** We will be checking with Mrs.

Zagorski this week to see that all the chaperones' BCI's are complete. If there are any problems, we will be contacting you. Several children will be assigned to each parent who attends in order to help us with supervision. Because of this responsibility, siblings are not able to attend. Thank you for understanding.

The fee for this trip is \$14.00, which covers the cost of the bus and admission. We will leave at 9:15am and return at 1:15pm. The children do **not** have to wear their school uniforms to Confreda Farms. We suggest wearing comfortable, warm (if needed) clothing and sneakers, since we will be walking through the farm, riding on the wagon, and choosing our own pumpkin! Please remember to pack a bag lunch. **Do not use your lunchboxes** because they are too bulky and we want to be able to throw the bag away before we leave.

The **St. Cecilia Halloween Party** will be held on Friday, October 20<sup>th</sup> in the Church Hall from 6pm-8pm. This annual event is always a good time filled with fun, music, dancing, and most importantly, plenty of refreshments and goodies. Tickets for the children are \$5.00, and adults accompanying children do not need to buy a ticket. All children must be accompanied by an adult. Please send in the form and ticket money you received last week no later than Monday, October 16<sup>th</sup>. We can't wait to see everyone in his or her costumes!

Have a great week!

Thank you,  
Mrs. Lucier