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# Kindergarten Times

October 16, 2017

Dear Families,

The Walk-A-Thon was a great success! The children did a fantastic job walking to help our school! Many children received extra dress-down days for all the donations they collected. Thank you so much for supporting St. Cecilia School!

We would like to thank Mrs. Smith for all her help and assistance during the time we were finding a replacement for Mrs. Ventura. She did a fantastic job! She will definitely be missed.

Let's give a huge welcome to Mrs. Ferreira, our new assistant in our classroom! We are very excited to have her working in kindergarten! Please make sure you say hello to her in the morning when she lets the children into the school.

The field trip to **Confreda Farms** is next Monday, October 23<sup>rd</sup>. All permission slips and money have been returned. Thank you! Hopefully the weather will cooperate. We will be watching the forecast and if any changes need to be made, we will be contacting you by email. Please make sure we have your email addresses in case we need to send you any new information.

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. If you are planning to chaperone the field trip, please be in the classroom by 9:00am. The bus departs at 9:15am and returns at 1:15pm. Directions will be available in the classroom when you arrive. There is no admission fee for chaperones. We will check 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.

This week in reading, the big book, *Everybody Works*, is an informational text, and we'll talk about the

different kinds of jobs people have in our communities. We will be reading about the jobs people do and how the members of our community work together. Text and graphic features, how words work with art and photos, will be explored to answer the question, "How can photographs help me better understand a selection?"

We'll also read *Pizza with Sally*, a realistic fiction story about a woman named Sally, who owns a pizza shop. She shows the children how she makes a pizza, cooks them in the oven, and sells them to her customers. At the end of the day, Sally closes her shop and has a slice of pizza herself!

The word wall words are **and** and **because**. The letter of the week is **Mm**. We will be focusing on the sound Mm makes, naming, writing, and drawing pictures of words that begin with that sound. Action verbs in present tense will be reviewed. Writing will focus on using more details within each sentence. Instead of writing, *I have a dog*; we will encourage the children to add more detail to this sentence, ex. *I have a big, furry dog*. The lesson is that having more detail will make their stories more interesting to read.

Again, we will be sending the Decodable Readers home every week as part of our reading program. As we had last week, a copy of two books will be going home on Monday, to be read each night for homework. The first book, *Mm*, 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, *I Like Mm*. As your child reads this book to you, have him or her point to each word as it is read. Again, thank you for your help!

**Please review the names and sounds of all uppercase and lowercase letters at home, as well as writing the lowercase letters as quickly as possible.** This will help tremendously now that we are sounding out words and writing sentences.

Chapter 2 in math has begun! Last week, the children learned about cylinders, cones, and spheres. This week, we will learn about cubes and rectangular prisms. We will also sort solid geometrical shapes. The focus will be on which shapes are able to roll, slide, or

stack. We will chart the shapes as we talk about curved or flat surfaces. The class will be using manipulative foam shapes to discover which qualities each shape needs to be categorized. If you have any questions about these three-dimensional shapes, we are sure the children would be happy to answer them.

This week's chapter in religion is "God Made the Animals." The lesson will focus on identifying all kinds of animals and how to care for the animals that God created. Each student will identify and create a drawing of their favorite animal.

You will be receiving a **Witch's Brew** donation slip in your folder asking you to donate a small treat for our special Halloween activity. On Monday afternoon, October 30<sup>th</sup>, the class will be snacking on this wonderful concoction. Please let us know if you are unable to donate the item assigned to you. This is one of our favorite activities!

Just a reminder: **Lunch Menu Forms need to be returned no later than October 20<sup>th</sup>** in order to receive Hot Lunch for the month of November.

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 and Mrs. Ferreira