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Kindergarten Times

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Dear Families,

It's so nice to see spring is on the way! Everyone is ready for a new season. Sunshine and warmer weather will be a pleasant change. St. Patrick's Day and Easter activities will be keeping us busy for the next two weeks!

If you have not done so already, please return the **signed report card** in the unsealed envelope as soon as possible. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me to schedule a conference. I will be happy to speak to you about your child's progress at any time.

On **Thursday, March 8th**, St. Cecilia School is having an **Open House** from 6:00am-8:00pm. Please tell all your friends to come and see what St. Cecilia School has to offer. We are all very proud of our school community, and wish to share it with as many as we can.

The short vowels sounds are quite tricky, and most of the class is catching on quite nicely! If you find your child is struggling with this, please review the rhyming word families at home. We now have short a (_at,_an,_ad,_am, and _ap), short i (_it,_ip,_in, and _ig), and will introduce short o (_op,_ot,_og, and _ob) next week. Strength in this skill builds confidence in reading and makes learning more fun.

This week in reading, the big book, *The Best of Friends*, is a realistic fiction text. The children will talk about two boys who form a lifetime friendship. We will discuss and ask the question, "How do characters change in a story?"

We will also read *Simon and Molly plus Hester*. This book, a realistic fiction text, tells about two children, Simon and Molly, who are best friends. Hester moves into their neighborhood and Simon begins to feel left out. Simon becomes angry with Hester, until he overhears a conversation between Molly and Hester. Simon realizes Hester is nice and playing with Hester is actually a lot of fun.

The word wall words are **make** and **play**. We will have a **spelling test on Wednesday**. **We will send these tests home next week so we can display them at open house on Thursday evening**. The letter of the week is **short o**. We will be focusing on the sound short Oo makes and reviewing the rime families, _ot, _ob, _op, and _og. The grammar lesson for this week

is pronouns – he, she, and we. The children will learn that they can use pronouns in place of the proper names of people. He replaces a boy; She replaces a girl; and we replaces two or more people. We will also learn about and write a list. Lists are one way to remember good ideas. Examples of lists are: different kinds of groceries, chores, names, activities, etc. The Decodable Readers are *Make It Pop* and *My Dog Tom*. The children have been reading both stories to their classmates during rotations for extra practice.

Comparing numbers 1-12, using the terms less than, equal to, and greater than, and ordering the numbers 1-12, using the terms before, after, and between, will be the focus of the math lessons this week.

Math Week begins this Thursday, March 8th. A performance by Dennis Regling called "The Amazing Mysteries of Mathematics" will be the first Math Week pump up presentation. Each student will be creating a "Figure Me Out" posters using math facts for clues. The class will be doing a STEM activity, going on a Shapes Scavenger Hunt, and celebrating Pi Day. It is going to be a fun week for everyone!

The religion lesson this week is "We Pray as Jesus Did." We will reinforce the teachings that prayer is one way we can show our love to God.

Lifetouch pictures will be at school on Monday morning, March 12th. The children **do not** wear their uniforms for these spring pictures. If you would prefer your child to be photographed without a chalkboard name, remember to check the box on the form. Please send in your completed order form on picture day if you wish to choose your background.

Mrs. Ferreira is sending home the **Scholastic Book Flyers** on Monday. If you are planning to order books, please place your order on or before March 19th. Thank you.

For the next two weeks during afternoon centers, we will be making **Easter bags**. We are asking for donations to fill these bags. If everyone would bring in a bag of **Easter Candy** or a **little Easter treat** such as a pencil, eraser, etc., it would be greatly appreciated. Please provide 16 of each item so every bag will have the same amount of goodies. Thank you for your help in advance!

Our containers are filling up with beads! Please continue to send in your **good deed coupons**. The class is doing a great job helping others throughout this season of lent. Remember, no act of kindness is too little to reward. We are planning to make our good deed necklaces on Wednesday afternoon, March 28th, so the children will be able to wear these necklaces proudly on Holy Thursday. Each coupon is worth a bead for their "good deed necklace."

There is a **Sports Dress Down Day on Tuesday, March 6th**, so please send in the coupon if your child is dressing down.

Just a reminder: You have received a **registration packet** for the upcoming school year in your child's folder. If your child is returning to St. Cecilia School next year, please return the completed forms, along with your registration fee in your child's folder or bring it directly to the school office. Thank you.

Please join the PTO of **Saint Cecilia's School at our 4th annual "Taste of the Town"** on Monday, March 19th from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Tickets are \$25 in advance or \$30 at the door. Guests will enjoy an array of delicious food and drink options provided by local restaurants and caterers. This event is our biggest fundraiser, and your support is greatly appreciated. With the money raised, we hope to expand our S.T.E.M. programs (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) and make much needed physical improvements to the school. Take a chance at winning one of the amazing baskets made with generous donations from our school families. Classroom basket descriptions and the entry form will soon be posted on-line at <http://scsri.org/parents-page>. Raffle winners will be drawn the night of the event although attendance is not required to win. **Tickets were sent home last week and we are asking each family to purchase two tickets to support our biggest fundraiser of the year. Thank you for your continued support of our school!**

The Drama Club will be performing the musical Annie and will host a fundraiser on Monday, March 26th, at Uncle Tony's Restaurant, 260 Newport Avenue, East Providence. Please save the date and help the Center Stage Cougars raise funds to help purchase props, costumes, supplies, etc. for their production. More information will follow. Thank you so much for your support!

Just a reminder: **There is no school on Friday, March 9th** due to a Teacher Professional Day.

Have a great week and enjoy the three-day weekend!

Mrs. Lucier and Mrs. Ferreira