

All the New from the Second Grade Shining Stars
May 2010

Dear Families:

Warmer temperatures and busy schedules have turned Spring into a very exciting time of the year. Signs of growth are all around us in nature, and in the classroom. Students are polishing their reading, writing, and math skills in anticipation of third grade. **Every day is an important opportunity to learn.** Staying focused on learning can be a challenge as we begin the last month of this school year. Your support will be very important in encouraging our best work.

During May, our Religion studies will focus on our devotion to Mary and the Rosary, as well as celebrating our life with Jesus. We will learn how Jesus is with our community in homes, school, and parish. Remember to make attendance at a weekend Mass an occasion to look forward to each week. Our children are anxious to receive Jesus in the Eucharist often.

Congratulations to all of our students at Sacred Heart for their creative work that will be showcased at the May 13 Art Show along with the parent luncheon. Look forward to the Scholastic Book Fair which will be available. Come in for a visit! We hope you will be able to attend.

The Sacred Heart School student body attended the musical “Annie” at The Children’s Theater Company in Minneapolis on May 4. We had a grand time traveling and sharing this experience with Mrs. Hall, our teachers, and our classmates.

In math units 7 and 8, we will review counting strategies, Arrow-Path puzzles, number patterns and computation. Our study also emphasizes fractions of regions and collections of objects. We’ll learn about relationships between fractions and fraction number stories. Continue to stress mastery of addition and subtraction facts now and during the summer months.

Reading, English skills, and Spelling are very much a part of each day’s study. We are continuing to explore selections in the themes “Family Times” and “Talent Show.” We are experiencing realistic fiction, making judgments, inferences, and predicting outcomes in each of the stories we read. We are also reading and writing sentences with present and past tense verbs. Other important skills include reading and following directions, and using the dictionary. The children are using their “Reading Logs” each day to improve their reading skills.

Our present unit in Social Studies is called “Our Country Today.” This unit introduces children to the concept of local, state, and federal government. We will study citizen heroes, leaders, lawmakers, maps, charts, and graphs.

Our Earth Science lessons are revolving around weather, the solar system, rocks and soil, how to be Earth savers, and DINOSAURS! The children have a great deal to be proud of with the success of the diorama project. Each project showed good creativity and an interest in our lessons. The dioramas will be displayed in our library until May 13. We will celebrate our Science and Social Studies theme of conservation and being good land stewards with our trip to the Minnesota Zoological Gardens on May 17. A permission slip will be sent home soon.

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Our end of the year Mass will be on Friday, May 27 at 1:30PM. Please plan on attending to share the year together.

You can be proud of the progress your child has made academically and in personal development this year. **We appreciate your support and cooperation throughout this busy year. Thank you.**

Enjoy the beauty and splendor of God's creation in springtime!

Sincerely,

Mrs. JoAnn Adelman and Mrs. Marijo Fischer

Conversation Starters for May:

- 1. Who is the Mayor of Waseca? Governor of Minnesota? State senator? President of the United States? (Roy Srp, Mark Dayton, Tim Pawlenty, Barack Obama)**
- 2. May is Arbor Month? Where could you plant a tree or trees to help make the Earth more colorful and healthy?**
- 3. What kind of habitats will we visit at the Minnesota Zoo this month? Lions, and tigers, and bears? OH MY!**
- 4. May 16 is "Wear Purple for Peace Day." What are some ways you can be a peacemaker?**
- 5. The first week of May is "Children's Book Week." Are you reading a good book? Share what you are reading with a friend, your parents, or your teacher.**