



# FALL IS HERE!



Holy Trinity School  
Comstock Park, MI

October 16, 2009

## Mrs. Signore's Newsletter

### Language Arts

In writing we have edited and rewritten our "Mad Scientist" stories and read them to the class. These will be on display in the hallway. We are now reading our next chapter book, Andrew, Lost on the Dog, which is about another child whose scientific inventions create havoc. We will be comparing and contrasting these two stories. We will also be working on writing a journal entry.

In grammar we are working on recognizing the action part of a sentence and practiced using words with multiple meanings in different types of sentences.

In phonics we are continuing to practice vowel patterns. In spelling this week we introduced consonant clusters at the beginning and ends of words.

Mrs. Daniel is guiding the students in comparing and contrasting characters in stories and using Venn Diagrams. She is also working on vocabulary, genre, inference and predicting skills. I am doing weekly oral reading assessments for progress monitoring.

### Math

We are working hard on Mad Minutes, addition and subtraction fact families to 20 and are practicing new clock concepts such as recognizing the 15 and 45 minute positions. We played clock bingo for fun. Students use small clocks when practicing these concepts to help them construct the understanding. I use a large clock to reinforce what they are doing individually.

We also do a daily math warm-up which involves listening and various reasoning skills.

### Science

We completed our tree and leaf explorations and will begin focusing on the life cycle of a plant. We watched a movie that reviewed the plant concepts we are learning and also read a story called, The Tree of Time, which illustrates the fact that the life cycle of a giant Sequoia tree is over 2000 years! Postcards from my visit to this National Forest in California were fascinating.



### Social Studies

Columbus Day was Monday!

Christopher Columbus was a great complement to our study of community as we broaden our approach from our family to our neighborhoods, city, state, country and the world. This week we practiced looking at different kinds of maps in our atlases and are practicing map reading skills.

### Religion

We are praying the Sorrowful Mysteries this week and reflecting on the suffering of Jesus in the Passion through meditating on our coloring pages.

In addition to praying about Jesus' suffering we are reading about the joy of his resurrection and why Christians can REJOICE! We celebrate the fact that we are Catholics as we learn a little church history and that Jesus died for us.

For the month of Mary, we enjoyed the movie, *The Day the Sun Danced*, which explains the Fatima Miracle.

## HALLOWEEN PARTY!



Mrs. Willis is in charge of our Halloween Party. She and I have discussed food and activities. If you are interested in sending food, please contact Mrs. Willis. The party will be from 1:30 to 3:00. on Friday, October 30<sup>th</sup>.

### Important Notes

- **2<sup>nd</sup> Grade is in charge of the Mass next Wednesday at 9:00 a.m. We welcome you to worship with us!**
- *Check out the Holy Trinity Website under "Mrs. Signore". There are spelling and math website links, articles, schedules and homework tips. The websites provide great extra practice and fun, too!*
- Our first field trip will be on Thursday, November 19<sup>th</sup> to Grandville High School. We will be attending the **Circle Presents** 1:00 p.m. production of *The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe*, by C. S. Lewis. This is the day after the all-school Thanksgiving Feast. There are tickets available for 4 parents to attend. Field trip permission slips will be going home soon. Students will leave with parent drivers by Noon and return by 3:00. Anyone who is a driver must have Virtus training and adequate insurance.
- **Our first Holy Trinity School Store was a smashing success! 2<sup>nd</sup> graders and I counted \$33.90 in sales which will be used as a cash bank until more profits can be reinvested. 7<sup>th</sup> grade Superfriends helped us manage the enthusiastic shoppers, tally sales of goods for inventory purposes and deliver purchases to all of the grades. 2<sup>nd</sup> graders helped set up the store displays and advise customers on purchases. We also decided to use some of the current profits to buy more merchandise to replace popular items, such as pens. More religious bracelets are on order with our supplier, God's Gifts. Thank you all for any donations you have sent in.**

