

April 30, 2010

Dear Parents,

Once again, I thank you for helping your children sell all their chocolate candy. Most everyone agrees that it sold easily. I'm sure the Africans, Navajos, and the children from Tijuana are grateful.

We are on the final stretch of first grade. Beginning May 3rd, I introduce, teach and reteach re-grouping ... which is carrying and borrowing. Usually about 75% of our students master these math skills, however, only about half retain these skills over the summer. Please hang on to their work, exams and class work. It would be time spent wisely for you to review these newly mastered skills over the summer.

We will complete all text books (with the exception of science – but we'll be close to completion). All textbooks will be sent home in June. Please review these books over the summer.

Our last "Scholastic Book" order will be sent home today. This is an excellent and inexpensive way to add to your child's library.

Next week I'll be sending home their graded work. Please take some time to discuss your child's progress with them.

In Truth,
Sr. Sharon

Future Dates

May 5th – Progress Reports
May 6th – Field Trip to Coyote Point Museum
May 7th – May Crowning
May ? - 1st Grade short plays
May 19 – Spring Music Concert
May 21– Talent Show

Following are the California State Standards that I will be teaching during the month of May and June.

Religion

- *Review the seven fruits of the Holy Spirit
- *Feast of Pentecost (50 days after Easter – the last day of the Easter Season)
- *Review all types of prayer
- *Catholic means “universal”
- *Catholic Church communities help people in need
- *Identify needs that people have
- *The mission of Christians is to help and serve others
- *Illustrate and dramatize learned Bible stories
- *Identify certain feasts and months dedicated to Mary
- *Introduction to the History of the Rosary and 20 mysteries (Bible stories)
- *Try to be like Jesus
- *Try to make unselfish choices
- *Respect all living things and practice recycling
- *Practice forgiving others
- *We pray with Holy songs
- *When we pray holy songs, we pray with our voices and hearts
- *Review the Holy Bible – Old and New Testaments
- *Review the writers of the 4 Gospels and the Psalms
- *Review; guardian angels, angels, St. Joseph, St. Dominic Guzman, St. Catherine of Siena, St. Lucy, St. Blaze, St. Anthony, St. Patrick, St. Valentine, St. Nicholas, St. Anne, St. Joachim, St. Elizabeth, St. Joseph, St. Peter, St. Veronica, St. Simon St. John the Baptist, St. Francis, St. Peter, St. Thomas Aquinas and The Queen of the Heavens and all the Saints and Angels ... Our Mother Mary

Math

- *Read clocks to ½ hour and hour
- *Read and use a calendar
- *Read and use a schedule

- *Explore probability
- *Use tables to keep track of data
- *Compare the lengths and heights of objects using cubes, clips, centimeters, inches, feet and yards
- *Measure length, height, perimeter and area (square inches)
- *Compare weights of objects
- *Measure weight in pounds and kilograms
- *Explore capacity
- *Measure capacity by using cups, pints, quarts and liters
- *Read a thermometer and identify hot and cold temperatures
- *Review ones, tens, hundreds
- *Add tens or ones to a two-digit numbers
- *Add tens and ones without regrouping
- *Add tens and ones with regrouping (carrying)
- *Subtract tens or ones to a two - digit number
- *Subtract tens and ones without regrouping
- *Subtract tens and ones with regrouping (borrowing)
- *Find a pattern to solve problems
- *Review coins
- *Solve word problems involving money
- *Rounding numbers to the nearest ten
- *Estimate to check answers

Phonics

- *Master y sounds as long i or long e
- *Master ending sounds ed, ing, ness, ion
- *Discriminate between th and t sounds
- *Discriminate between sh and s sounds
- *Discriminate between ch and c sounds
- *Kn sounds
- *Review all contractions

Reading

- *Read aloud with fluency in a manner that sounds like natural speech
- *Introduce dictionary skills
- *Demonstrate knowledge of antonyms, synonyms, homonyms, prefixes and suffixes
- *Understand stories read and comprehend stories, make

- predictions, compare and contrast characters and situations
- *Respond to who, what, when, where, why and how questions
 - *Retell the central ideas in a story
 - *Identify and describe the elements of plot, setting and characters in a story
 - *Identify the story's beginning, middle and ending
 - *Use inference skills to draw conclusions
 - *Distinguish between fiction and non-fiction

Writing/English

- *Master use of proper punctuation and capitalization
- *Write brief narratives
- *Write stories about true events – traditions, holidays, family, play dates, sports, etc.
- *Write in complete, coherent sentences using singular and plural nouns, verbs and adjectives
- *Correctly use contractions and singular possessive pronouns

Handwriting

- *All lower and upper case letters should be printed neatly and correctly
- *Proper spacing between words and new paragraphs
- *Proper use of the lines on various paper

Spelling

- *Spell three-five letter short vowel and long vowel words correctly
- *Demonstrate beginning decoding skill and knowledge of phonics by recognizing consonant blends, rhyming patterns, word families, consonant digraphs and vowel digraphs
- *www.spellingcity.com

Computer

- *Addition facts to 18, subtraction from 15 or less
- *Starfall.com reading
- *Alphabetical order
- *Master map skills – oceans, continents
- *Social Studies vocabulary – goods, services, needs, wants, factory, manufacture and market

- *Raz-kids
- *www.mathletics.com/parents

Science

- *Weather – observe, measure, chart and describe
- *Read thermometer and rain gauge
- *The sun warms the land, air and water
- *Animals & plants – living together
- *Asking meaningful questions and conduct careful investigations
- *Record observations and data with pictures, numbers and written statements
- *How does a windvane and rain gauge work?
- *Galileo Galilei invented the thermometer in 1592
- *Measure weather conditions and record changes from day to day
- *Seasons have different weather
- *Predict weather
- *Represent and compare data (largest, smallest, most often, least often)
- *Protecting our Earth – NASA, satellite pictures to spot problems (weather, crops, forest fires)

(Our last chapter in our Science text books, lab books is on Seasons. We may not complete this chapter. I have taught the children throughout the year about our four seasons, however not from our text book.)

If time -

- *Our Earth experiences seasons because of the tilt of Earth on it's axis and that it travels in an orbit
- *The sun's rays do not hit all areas of Earth with same intensity
- *An area's proximity to the equator affects the fluctuation in temperature during each season
- *Explain characteristics of the weather in winter, spring, summer, and fall
- *Review ways to care for the Earth
- *Record and compare data using a thermometer indoors and outdoors, shade and sun
- *Introduction farming – fruits & vegetables grown well in certain areas

Social Studies

- *Review other cultures from:
Native Americans, Japan, Mexico, Russia, Africa, Italy, Germany, and Poland, China, France
- *Master vocabulary words:
ancestor, tradition, culture, immigrant, custom, goods, service, needs, wants, trade, factory, manufacture and market
- *Critical thinking while answering in these questions:
Why is education important?
Why is work important?
How do people use money?
How do goods get to people?
Why is every job important?
What career do you think you might want to have?
If you had money, what would you buy?
How do adults earn money?
How does fruit get from the farm to the refrigerator?
How does paper get from the tree to our classroom?
- *Most common jobs in California
- *Review of map skills
- *We will complete our Social Studies text (No textbooks – 4 page packets have been sent home throughout the year.

Misc.

- *Master Calendar skills
- *Introduce dictionary skills
- *Planting seeds
- ***Review Review**
- *Spring Plays -
2 short skits – **Sweetness** and **Jesus at the Wedding Feast**
(These skits will **probably** be performed on a Friday in May at 2:00)

