

Dear Fourth Grade Families,

June 3, 2020

It's June!! We have only 1 week left together! Even though these last few months have seemed to drag on, I still find myself surprised that we are at the end of the year. Thank you to everyone who participated in the Spirit Week Activities. I know it was different, but it was still a lot of fun!!

Service Hours: Thank you to everyone who has turned in their student's service hours! As we discussed at Open House, Fourth graders are required to do 10 hours of community service (service hours). Please email me what the service was that was provided. If you know the date the service was provided that is great too! You can also email me the information. If I don't have documentation of the service hours by Friday, June 5th it will be a zero in the gradebook.

Here is what we are working on for the rest of our time together...

Math: We have started chapter 10, Two-Dimensional Figures. In this chapter we are answering the question, 'How can you draw and identify lines and angles, and how can you classify shapes? This is a short chapter and I hope to have the chapter 10 test Friday, June 5th. This will be the last chapter test we take this year. If the date of the test changes I will let you know.

Reading: We have finished reading our novel, Mr. Tucket. This week I am letting the class use the reading time to work on the Mr. Tucket packet. They can do the packet electronically or use the hard copy they were given in April. They should also be working on the Book trailer FlipGrid video, both projects are due Friday. If your child is doing the hard copy of the packet please be sure it is turned in during a Wednesday Scrip drop off day or at the end of the year supply drop off on June 19th.

**Next week the class will be reviewing identifying the theme, main ideas and details of given texts.

Writing: I have asked the class to create a Graduation/Congratulations card for their 8th grade Family Color leader. If they do not remember the names of their leaders it is posted in Google Classroom and I sent the list in an email to you a few weeks back.

** Remember to continue to encourage your child to write in their Quarantine Journal daily. They will get a chance to share if they want, next week.

Religion: This week we are focusing on Chapter 24, We Grow in Holiness. The objectives for this chapter are...

- 1) To present Jesus as our model of holiness.

- 2) To explain the benefits of prayer.
- 3) To emphasize that we are enriched by the sacraments.
- 4) To teach the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit.

****The test for chapter 24 will be on Friday, June 5th. The test is on page 282 in the Religion book.****

Next week we will be focusing on chapter 24, We are the Church. The objectives for this chapter will be...

- 1) To explore what it means to be members of the Church.
- 2) To explain that as baptized members of the Church we have certain responsibilities.
- 3) To examine the ways the sacraments nourish us as we grow in age.
- 4) To highlight the ways we can be active in the Church community.

No test for this chapter

History: This will be our last assignment on Studies Weekly. We will be working on Week 22. We will be reading the following articles...

*The Man Who Could Fly

*Boom to Bust and Back Again

*What are Homophones and Homographs?

*From Seattle to Tranquility Base

*How Does an Airplane Drive?

*Peregrine Falcon

*The Purpose of the Government

HMWK: Reread/listen to articles and answer 3?'s if they have them. **Take Test - Due Tues.**

Science: We have completed science for the year. The class took the last test yesterday. They can keep the science books and enjoy reading them or trying some of the simple lab ideas that they have in the book.

****On Friday, June 19th from 9:00-11:30 will be the last supply drop off and pick up date of the year. Please be sure to get all of your child's work together and turned in as well as any text books, or supplies that I have let them borrow.****

This will be my last newsletter of the year and I wanted to Thank you all so much for an amazing year! I loved getting to know all of you a little bit better and I am blessed to have had the opportunity to teach your children. Although it was not the year any of us had planned, and it breaks my heart when I think of the time we have missed learning and laughing together, these kids have done an amazing job navigating this crazy time. I went from seeing kids with fear in their eyes and so many questions to kids who beg to stay after class to chat and laugh with their friends. They are so resilient and brave and will come out on the other side of all of this with stories to tell, lessons learned and

knowledge to change the world! I thank you so much for your patience with me as I learned how to make this remote learning work (haha!) Thank you for your flexibility with class times and taking the lead as teacher when you had your own work to get done. I am so blessed to have had this amazing group of kids and parents to have experienced this with. It wasn't always easy or smooth, but that's life and that's learning and to be able to teach these lessons to those 29 fourth graders is a bigger gift than any of us will ever know. As we have talked about in class, this is history in the making and they will be able to share their experiences with many generations to come.

Thank you to Maricar Herradura for serving as our room parent this year and for creating our class auction project. Thank you to all of the volunteers who helped me throughout the year with different projects and jobs. Thank you to all of you for supporting me and your 4th grader this year!!

My family always teases me about saying that I am going to 'school' and not that I am going to 'work'. Teaching is work, but most days those 29 little ones taught me as much, if not more, than I taught them. They remind me daily of what a blessing it is to teach at St. Philomena. They make me laugh, smile, pray and they inspire me daily by their generosity and kindness towards me and others. At the beginning of the year we spent a lot of time discussing what it means to be a part of a community, and even on our worst days all I would have to say is, what does it mean to be a part of this community? Their answers were always...

*To always see the face of Jesus in everyone you meet!

*Do small things with great love!

*Even in 4th grade, we can make a difference in the world!

*Always respect ourselves and others!

These 29 kind hearted little people will forever be one of my kids! My own boys always tell me that people must think I have a hundred kids, because I'm always saying, 'Oh, one of my kids...' But they all have a special place in my heart with their name on it, and I have missed and will continue to miss each one of them dearly, until we are all back in the same building again! I will remind them to come visit me downstairs with the 'little kids', and will remind them how amazing they are!!

Thank you for supporting our mission to be a community, and although we didn't have the time together that we had planned, they practiced the tools that will serve them well in their future. I am excited to see all the amazing things that they will accomplish!! Thank you for sharing them with me this year!

I will be sharing this poem with the class next week, but wanted to share it with you today.

**You're a very special person,
And I want you to know.
How I loved to be your teacher,
How fast the weeks did go!
Please come back and visit me
As through the grades you grow,
Try hard to learn all that you can
There is so much to know!
The one thing I try to teach you
To last your whole life through,
Is to know that you are special
Just because you are YOU!**

**May God Bless You Always!
Love, Mrs. O'Connor**