

## FIRST GRADE

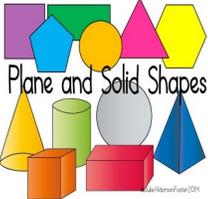
# February

Dear First Grade Parents,

February will be a very busy time in first grade! We will be celebrating our 100 days in School on Monday, February 4. The children have already received their 100-days posters to decorate with small objects, stickers, or other



household objects that can be glued to the poster. Our 100-days activities will last the entire week and will be sprinkled throughout the week's lessons.



Plane and Solid Shapes

Aside from the 100-days activities and celebration, first grade will be very busy working with addition and related facts in our math book. The children will be working again with fact families and patterns in addition. It is very important the children begin to recognize doubles in both addition and subtraction. These skills will begin to form the foundation for all future mathematics lessons. We will also begin to explore solid and plane figures. This topic is very popular in first grade--as it involves plenty of manipulatives, food, and games!

Our Language Arts curriculum will continue to develop the children's reading and writing skills. We will be focusing on vocabulary development and fluency in reading. The children will read the story of the Red Eyed Tree Frog which allows for a direct connection with our "food chain" science activities. Our science unit will end with the children creating their own paper plate food chain.

reading fluency



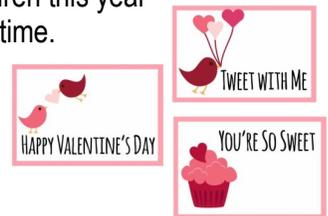
Our study of the natural world and its resources will continue as we begin theme 4 in our Social Studies book. The class will begin to learn about some of the precious and limited resources our planet provides us. This unit will include topics such as conservation and recycling. In order for the children to understand just how important it is to take care of nature, we will be making bird feeders later this month.



Baptism Confirmation Eucharist Reconciliation

Our religion studies will be very important in February as the children will begin to study the sacraments in detail. Although we will be discussing all seven sacraments, we will pay special attention to baptism, reconciliation, and communion, as they are very important to this age group. The children will learn that, with baptism, they are welcomed into God's family. Finally, communion and reconciliation is a large part of the second grade curriculum, and I will begin to expose the children this year to the importance of receiving these sacraments for the first time.

On Tuesday, February 14, we will be celebrating St. Valentine's Day in the classroom. Our activities will consist of crafts and an exchange of Valentines. Please send 14 valentine cards, one for each student in the class, with your child on this day. Valentine cards must be brought to school **without a name**. Each child will pass out their valentine to every student in the class after our celebration.



As I mentioned earlier February brings many exciting changes to first grade. One of which will include first grade's participation in weekly Mass. Beginning in February the first grade class will be joining 2nd and 3rd grade every **Thursday for 8 am Mass**. This will help the children transition into weekly Mass as second graders. The children must wear dress uniform including a belt. The children are very excited to begin weekly Mass and look forward to getting closer to God at weekly worship.

Lastly, first grade will be participating in the school wide Silent Sustained Reading (SSR) program. In the beginning of the year, I would read aloud to the class during this time. At the end of February, the children will be allowed to choose books from the classroom library to keep in their desk. The children are also allowed to bring a chapter book from home as long as it is appropriate for their age and reading level.

## SUCCESS WITH SSR



I would like to thank you for your continued support and remind you that we are partners in education, and my door is always open to you. Your children are a wonderful reminder of God's unconditional love; thank you for sharing them with me.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Barrios

**THANK YOU**



*for your continued support!*

# FEBRUARY WORD LIST

sacraments

symbol

natural

food chain

Washington

mountains

resource

Lincoln

producer

president

recycle

consumer

St. Valentine

shelter

grassland

estimate

water

weather

plane

environment

edge

Eucharist

conserve

symmetry

Baptism

carnivore

vertex

Reconciliation

herbivore

face

Confirmation

omnivore

flip

Marriage

marsh

equal amounts

Anointing of the Sick

abundance

roll

Holy Orders

stream

flat surface