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Kindergarten Times

October 9, 2018

Dear Families,

We hope you enjoyed the long, holiday weekend. The weather was so enjoyable for this time of year! During the next few weeks, our routine will be slightly changing. Our field trip to Confreda Farms, pumpkin painting, and the Harvest Mix Celebration will keep us very busy!

The Walk-A-Thon was a great success! The children did a fantastic job walking to help our school! Many children received extra dress-down days for all the donations they collected. Thank you so much for supporting St. Cecilia School!

This Friday, October 12th, we will be attending **Mass** at 8:30am. Throughout the school year, each child is assigned an 8th Grade Church Buddy to accompany him/her to Mass. On Tuesday morning, the children will meet their Church Buddies for the first time. The 8th Graders will visit our classroom to get to know their kindergarten buddies. We find this is an invaluable experience for all involved.

Congratulations to Liam! He was chosen to be **Kindergarten Student of the Month** for September. On Friday afternoon, Liam will enjoy lunch and an ice cream treat with Fr. Sisco and the other Students of the Month from each class!

This week in reading, the big book is *Please, Puppy, Please!* This is a realistic fiction story and we'll talk about how pets can be an important part of our lives and families. We will be reading about caring for and playing with a new pet. Story structure; telling the setting, characters, and events in the story, will be the focus. We'll also read *I Have a Pet*, another realistic fiction story about a group of children telling about the different kinds of pets they have; dog, cat, bird, hamster, and lizard. They discuss what their pets are like, why they like their pets, and how they take care of them.

A fun activity to do together is to see how many pets your child can name. Begin by saying "dog." Take turns naming pets. Then ask your child to say a sentence telling something the pet might do, such as, "The dog eats a treat!"

The word wall words are **the** and **can**. We will be reviewing the letters **Uu, Vv, Ww, Xx, Yy** and **Zz**. Synonyms, words that have the same or almost the same meaning, will be introduced. Nouns for animals and things will be reviewed.

We have begun using Decodable Readers every week as part of our reading program during morning rotations. This week, copies of two books are going home on Tuesday to be read each night for homework. The first book, *Baby Bear's Family*, is a picture story. Have your child tell you his or her own story about the pictures, encouraging them to speak in complete sentences. The second book is called, *The Party*. As your child reads this book to you, have him or her point to each word as it is read. This will help your child understand the concept of print.

Please continue to review all the word wall words. You will find them in your child's folder weekly. Hopefully this is a good system to transport the index cards without losing them. The students will be coming to the word wall individually and will be asked to say the words as we point them out. The children who know all the words seem to be doing their review at home. It is important now more than ever to continue to review the words at home because it helps them so much in the classroom. It is so exciting to see them recognizing these words in all the books we read in class, whether it is in reading time, story time, or even in religion!!!!

In math, we will continue to sort objects in different ways using sizes, colors, and shapes as our basic criteria. The Chapter 1 test in math will be given on Friday morning. Alike, same, and different will be reviewed this week, as well as sorting by color, shape, and size to prepare for this assessment.

This week's religion lesson is "God Gives Us the Land" The lesson will focus on how God filled the land with many gifts. We will talk about how we take care of God's land and how we can share God's gifts.

As part of our school mission, students are asked to answer the calling of the St. John Paul II Food Pantry. The Food Pantry is in need of personal hygiene items. **Between Monday, November 15th and Friday October**

19th, kindergarten is asked to donate one or more spray/stick deodorants. The class that has the best response will receive a dress-down day! **Go kindergarten!**

If you are ordering **Scholastic Books**, please place your order before Wednesday, October 10th. Thank you for supporting this program!

Our field trip to **Confreda Greenhouses and Farms** in Cranston, RI is on Thursday, October 25th. The fee for this trip is \$13.00 per student, which covers the cost of the bus and admission. Chaperones are free. We will leave at 9:30 am and return at 1:30pm. Please fill out the permission form and chaperone portion of the information sheet. Send these back to school, along with your check for \$13.00 made out to St. Cecilia School **no later than Tuesday, October 9th**. For planning purposes, this date is very important. Thank you for understanding.

Have a great week!

Thank you,
Mrs. Lucier and Mrs. Ferreira