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Kindergarten Times

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Dear Families,

It's so nice to see spring is on the way! Everyone is ready for a new season. Sunshine and warmer weather will be a pleasant change. St. Patrick's Day and Easter activities will be keeping us busy for the next few weeks!

There is an **8th Grade Dress-Down Day on Tuesday, March 19th**, so please send in the coupon or \$3.00 if your child is dressing down.

This week in reading, the big book, *The Best of Friends*, is a realistic fiction text. The children will talk about two boys who form a lifetime friendship. We will discuss and ask the question, "How do characters change in a story?"

We will also read *Simon and Molly plus Hester*. This book, a realistic fiction text, tells about two children, Simon and Molly, who are best friends. Hester moves into their neighborhood and Simon begins to feel left out. Simon becomes angry with Hester, until he overhears a conversation between Molly and Hester. Simon realizes Hester is nice and playing with Hester is actually a lot of fun.

The word wall words are **make** and **play**. We will have a **spelling test on Wednesday**. The letter of the week is **short o**. We will be focusing on the sound short Oo makes and reviewing the rime families, *_ot*, *_ob*, *_op*, and *_og*. The grammar lesson for this week is pronouns – he, she, and we. The children will learn that they can use pronouns in place of the proper names of people. He replaces a boy; she replaces a girl; and we replaces two or more people. We will also learn about and write a list. Lists are one way to remember good ideas. Examples of lists are: different kinds of groceries, chores, names, activities, etc.

The Decodable Readers are *Make It Pop* and *My Dog Tom*. The children have been reading both stories to their classmates during rotations for extra practice.

In math, we will be reinforcing place value with the numbers 21 and 31. Examples of this are: 26 is 2 bundles of ten and 6 ones and 31 is 3 bundles of ten and 1 ones.

The religion lesson this week is "We Belong to the Church." We will discuss that the Church is the family of God. God wants us to be members of his family.

For the next two weeks during afternoon centers, we will be making **Easter bags**. We are asking for donations to fill these bags. If everyone would bring in a bag of **Easter Candy or a little Easter treat** such as a pencil, eraser, etc., it would be greatly appreciated. Please provide 12 of each item so every bag will have the same amount of goodies. Thank you for your help in advance!

We Help Our Community, as part of our Lenten observance, begins on Monday, March 18th and concludes on Friday, March 22nd. Kindergarten is asked to **donate conditioner** for our St. John Paul II Food Pantry. In these hard times people can use a little extra help and conditioner is not covered under regular programs. Thank you for your great support in caring for others!

Our containers are filling up with beads! Please continue to send in your **good deed coupons**. The class is doing a great job helping others throughout this season of Lent. Remember, no act of kindness is too little to reward. We are planning to make our good deed necklaces on Thursday afternoon, April 11th. Each coupon is worth a bead for their "good deed necklace."

Operation Rice Bowl is underway! During the season of Lent, please donate your loose change to those in need. Place the change in the Rice Bowls you received and return it to school on Holy Thursday. Thank you so much for helping!

We will be attending the **Stations of the Cross** on Friday afternoon. For many children, this Lenten Season is the first time they have experienced the Stations of the Cross. They will be paired up with their 8th Grade Church Buddies.

The MDA Hop-a-thon (Muscular Dystrophy Association) will take place next Thursday morning, March 21st. Pre-K, kindergarten, first grade, second grade, and third grade will be hopping to raise money for this worthwhile cause. Two hundred hops is the goal! Please have **checks made out to MDA**, not to St. Cecilia School. Please send in your pledge forms and checks by March 21st. Thank you.

If your child is ordering **hot lunch in April**, please send in the form and payment by Friday, March 22nd.

We are planning a spring field trip to **Southwick's Zoo** in Mendon, MA on Tuesday, May 21st. We want to tell you in advance so that you can clear your schedule if you wish to chaperone. Please remember you need to have an up-to-date BCI in order to attend.

The Knights of Columbus are sponsoring a fundraiser raffle. You received tickets in your child's folder. If you wish to participate, please send the money and ticket stubs back to school. The drawing will be held on Sunday, May 5, 2019. 1st Prize is \$1,000.00, 2nd Prize is \$500.00, and 3rd Prize is \$250.00. Good luck to all!

Have a great week!

Mrs. Lucier and Mrs. Ferreira