



Preschool News by Mrs. Morrison

It has been a great start to the year at the preschool. Mrs. Guenther and I have been blessed with another great group of young children! In our two-morning preschool group, we have ten students; our three-morning group has twelve students; and finally our five-day afternoon group has nine students. All three classes really have enjoyed their first couple weeks at school. They are all getting the classroom routines down and getting into the groove of preschool life. In our second week of school, all three classes learned about the letter A. Our afternoon and three-morning class were working on letter formation, while the two-morning class got to listen to a story about Apple Auntie. They also colored and made their own Apple Auntie puppet. Each week these classes will be taught much of these same things but for a different letter. They all really enjoy learning about the alphabet and the fun things we can do with each letter. We also have been learning some great things in religion about Jesus. We read a story with our two-morning preschool group about how Jesus loves all children. And, in our three-morning and afternoon class, we have been learning how Jesus' special friends, his disciples, followed him and helped him tell everyone about how God is so great and that he loves and cares for everyone. We are learning how we can be Jesus' special helpers in preschool and at home by being kind and loving to our friends and family. This week we will be celebrating Grandparent's Day! The children have been practicing a couple of songs that we will sing to our grandparents. The children are very excited for their grandparents to come! Have a great September!

First Grade News by Miss Birtell

Welcome back to first grade!!! I hope everyone had a great summer. The first graders are off to a great start this school year. They have been busy reading and learning their sight words. First graders love reading their AR books and taking quizzes over them. All of the first graders have over 2 points!! Yay!! In math we have started the year off with numbers and the number line. Last week they learned greater than, less than, and equal too. They are doing a great job!! In social studies we are learning about rules and how they keep us safe in our communities, schools, and at home. The first graders are becoming great scientists learning all about the different parts of the flower and the different things a flower needs to survive. They have made diagrams showing the different parts of the flower, they turned out awesome!!! In language arts we have been learning all about sentences and how to make good sentences that make sense and have the correct punctuation. I'm so excited to see what God has planned for us this year at St. Rose!! We are so blessed to be a part of such a great community! ☺

Second Grade News by Mrs. Steffen

Here we are at the beginning of another school year! I've always liked beginnings because they give us the opportunity to make things new. A new beginning offers one of God's greatest gifts... hope. It's exciting to stand at the threshold of a beginning and wonder, "Where will this lead us? Where will we go?" Beginnings point us in the direction in which we want to go. They give us an idea of what we hope our ending to look like. The second graders and I stand at the threshold of our year and look at all the opportunity and promise it offers... and it is exciting! In our classroom, we have spent the first weeks of school understanding who we are, getting to know each other; our likenesses, our differences, and what makes us special. We are learning about what it takes to have a happy and successful classroom. We are learning what it means to be a good friend, as well as learning how to celebrate each other as a unique gift from God. The book, Henry and Mudge, is always a class favorite. These are two characters that we can relate too and we find these stories to be interesting. We celebrated the feast day of our patron saint, St. Rose of Lima on August 23rd by learning about this special saint and of course, with "Rose" Cupcakes! The Catholic Church and the saints show us how to live. We can try to be just like them and live good and holy lives. Writing Personal Narratives has been fun too. We are reading some great mentor texts and are discovering that Personal Narratives are true stories about our very own lives. Personal Narratives can make us laugh or cry. They can be serious or funny. In math we are moving right along. We are playing lots of math games to reinforce skills such as counting on, making a ten, adding three and four addends and so on. Our year is off to a beautiful start. We are embarking on a journey that will help our hearts and minds to grow in God's Love!

Third Grade News by Miss Loecker

How crazy it is to think we have been in school for nearly a month already! Time sure does fly by when you are having fun! The third graders are off to a great start! In math we have been working with money: counting money and giving back change. We will be moving on to adding with regrouping. In reading the students have been working with cause and effect, sequencing, visualizing, and learning new vocabulary words. We LOVE picking out "spicy" words in our reading selections. In language arts we have started writing our own personal narratives. Previously we were working with types of sentences, subjects, and predicates. In third grade, social studies is all about communities. The first chapter was all about what makes a community and what culture is. We are moving on to types of communities: rural, suburban, and urban. In science we are on the Unit of Earth's Resources. Right now we are diving into water. We are learning about how precious water is and the water cycle. In religion, I have introduced to them the Sacraments of Initiation: Baptism, the Eucharist, and Confirmation. These sacraments welcome us into the Church. We have also been talking about how the Holy Spirit is like the wind: you can't see it but you can feel it. The Holy Spirit has given us each a gift to use in our daily lives to enrich others around us and to lift up the Church. We have been discovering the gifts the Holy Spirit has given each one of us. That is what has been happening so far in our classroom! Our little third-grade family will continue to grow, learn, and have fun together! Hope you are having a great start to your school year, as well!

Fourth Grade News by Miss Pinkelman

It has been a great start to the school year in the fourth-grade room! Having adjusted to all the new expectations and routines, the fourth graders and I can now focus more fully on academics. In math we have been studying place value, rounding, and counting back change. We are gearing up to take our first math test this week! In religion we have studied the lives of Pope Pius X and Saint Thomas Aquinas as we learn how the Mass is a celebration of the Last Supper. During grammar, we have been hard at work studying the four kinds of sentences and locating the subject and predicate in each. The main focus of social studies in fourth grade is Nebraska History. We have been having fun learning all about our state's symbols and motto. Ask your child to describe the Nebraska State Seal to you! We have become experts at writing friendly letters in writing. I tied this into our Fairytale Genre Study in reading by having each of the kiddos pretend to be a fairytale character and write to one another. It brought about many laughs! This class definitely knows how to work hard AND have fun. With such kind, joyful, and smart students I can tell this will be a remarkable year!

Fifth Grade News by Mrs. Heese

Wow! Where to begin? During the last few weeks, the fifth graders and I have gotten to know each other and realized the LOVE of music that we share. They even let me sing off key without saying anything; don't tell my 20-year-old daughter (thanks). Our classroom theme is "Life is crazy good." As a fifth-grade family, each day we are laughing, reviewing, and jumping into our studies with joyful hearts. This is a class full of mathematicians and readers who find challenges exciting and meet each new day with smiles on their faces. Growing mold and other science activities excite the students. It is a blessing that God provided me with this opportunity to experience St. Rose and Crofton.

Religion & History 6-8 News by Mrs. Schieffer

"For I know well the plans I have in mind for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare, not for woe! Plans to give you a future full of hope." (Jeremiah 29:11) It's a new school year....a new beginning...a fresh start...full of hope! We have new teachers, a new priest, and new technology: MacBooks and iPads. These are exciting times at St. Rose School!! Students in grades 5-8, along with their teachers, gather each Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday morning to start the day with student-led Daily Prayer. This shortened version of the Liturgy of the Hours is a great way to begin our day together. Wednesday and Friday mornings we are grateful to begin our day with Mass. Our entire student body gathers at 3:15 each Friday afternoon to pray the Rosary or the Chaplet of Divine Mercy, sing the Chaplet (It's beautiful!), or spend some quiet time in Adoration. It's a great way to close our school week. Many students in grades 5-8 are off to a fantastic start with One Month Religion! Students have a month's time to complete the following tasks: review/learn three prayers or religious practices; complete one hour of service to family, school, church, or community; write a Mass response, explaining what they heard in the Gospels or homily at Mass; and create a poster, project, or presentation about a saint or feast. We are enjoying Fr. Tim's homilies and are getting to know him (and he's getting to know us) when he has class with grades 5-8 each Thursday. I pray that as the upper grades' History (grades 7-8) and Religion (grades 5-8) teacher, I can help them grow in their understanding of history this year and especially help them to grow in holiness. Students watch CNN Student News at least once a week. We've watched coverage of the Olympics and the 15th anniversary of the tragic events of September 11, 2001. Students are also gaining an understanding of the election process. Let's have a fabulous, faith-filled school year!

Math & Science 6-8 News by Mrs. Dather

Welcome back to another great school year! The sixth, seventh and eighth graders have been remembering, refreshing and re-evaluating math and science skills. The sixth-grade physical science students have already been busy making bridges in science, to see if they would hold weight. After some evaluation, most decided their tetrahedrons were not tied tight enough. Some students thought another shape might work better. Great thinking, sixth graders. In math, students have covered place values, decimals, addition and subtraction of decimals and have started math with variables. The seventh-grade Life Science students have been learning about the five kingdoms and classification and are now starting a unit on animal and plant cells. In math, the students have been busy with algebraic variables and expressions and integers. Very busy indeed! The eighth-grade Earth Science students have been learning about four spheres of the planet and how they are all interdependent. Now we are mapping the Earth. In math, students have remembered a great deal from last year and we have moved right along. We also have a class pet "Mandy" the Praying Mantis. The students are very eager to feed her/him and watch how she moves around the container.

English & Reading 6-8 News by Mrs. Arens

Welcome to another school year! We are off to a quick and exciting start! The eighth graders have already begun the year with writing letters to our new pen pals in Los Angeles. We are conversing with the students at Our Lady of Victory School in Compton, California. The students are excited to hear back from the students at this school. The eighth graders have also just begun a chapter in English on nouns, pronouns, and adjectives. They will soon be starting the novel White Fang by Jack London. In English, the seventh graders are also working on identifying nouns, pronouns, and adjectives. The sixth graders are well into their new reading series. They are reading different genres of literature and learning about many interesting topics like the expository text "Journey into the Deep." In English, the sixth graders are learning how to recognize subjects, predicates, different types of sentences, and will soon be writing a personal narrative, a story about themselves. Each day the objectives are stated on the board so that each student knows what the topic and goal will be for the day. I think this has helped focus our attention on what is to be learned that day. I am excited to teach your students this year and see what growth they make!

NOTICE: St. Rose School is pleased to report that they are in compliance with all current federal and state regulations regarding testing for asbestos. The presence of asbestos is not a hazard when maintained as non-friable and in good condition in accordance with the official Operational and Maintenance plan as is currently being done. A management plan is on file in the head teacher's office and is available during normal business hours.