

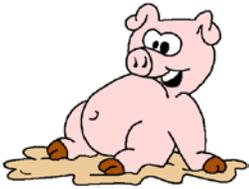


Father McCartan Memorial School

November 2020



Dimes for Doors



Beginning Monday, Nov. 2 students may donate dimes for our new doors. If they bring in 3,000 dimes (and only dimes count), Sister Catherine will kiss a pig! If they bring in 6,000 dimes (and only dimes count), Sister Catherine will kiss a pig and each student will receive a doughnut and an extra hour of recess (to be determined by the weather). Dimes for doors ends on Friday, Nov. 13. Will Sister Catherine really have to kiss a pig? Will students get doughnuts and extra recess time? Time will tell.

First Reconciliation

The second graders from our school, along with the second graders from PSR, will celebrate their First Reconciliation with their families at 10:00 on Nov. 14. There will be a short penance service and then students will make their first confession. Family members are invited to go to confession at this time as well.



State and Diocesan Accreditation



Every 5 years, Father McCartan School is evaluated by a Diocesan Accreditation team. 10 subcommittees have been formed, as well as a steering committee, which involves approximately 40 people. These 40 people gathered for a presentation by diocesan personnel which explained the purpose of the evaluation and suggested ways each subcommittee could effectively acquire information for the report. In the Spring, the Accreditation team, consisting of 3-4 diocesan educators, will spend three days at our school affirming what we do well and recommending areas for improvement. Most subcommittees will finish their work by Thanksgiving. I am grateful for the positive response of so many!

Reading Program

K-5 students are enjoying our new reading programs. Their readers have brightly colored illustrations and are filled with stories by current authors. There is a wonderful balance of fiction and informational text. Students in grades 6, 7, and 8 are enjoying new literature programs. Current authors are featured as students delve more deeply into themes, citing text evidence and comparing and contrasting characters and settings. What a joy it is to have sequential programs that build skills in a logical, consistent manner.



Goodbye and Hello



HELLO



GOODBYE

Our school family bids a fond farewell to Ms. Kayla Kirkpatrick who taught grades 1/2 last year and our preschoolers this year. Ms. Kirkpatrick will not return after her maternity leave. We welcome Mrs. Marci Burgener Walgren as our new preschool teacher. Marci was a part of our school family several years ago. We are glad to have her back!

Religion Curriculum

This year, the 7th and 8th graders are reading and discussing the book *Resisting Happiness* by Matthew Kelly. As we read and discuss the various themes, we are connecting them to a variety of scripture passages and to personal life experiences. It's amazing how difficult it is to find 5 minutes for quiet prayer. Students in these grades are challenged to do this on a daily basis.



The 5th and 6th graders are spending first semester learning about a variety of prayer forms. They have engaged in Lectio Divinia, Guided Imagery Prayer, Contemplative Walking, and the Examen. Each student has his/her favorite prayer form. Our lovely fall days make Contemplative Walking one of everybody's favorites.

Prayer Partners



A special thank you to our prayer partners for giving each of us a Scholastic book during the book fair and remembering us throughout the year! Every student and classroom, as well as our school library, received books through the many generous donations that were received – thank you for your generosity!!!

We always look forward to hearing from our partners but we also enjoy writing letters to them. We know that the prayers of many people help us make good choices throughout the day.

God Is Like

Our fifth and sixth graders are working on a small book in which they have to write and illustrate 5 metaphors describing God. Here are a few of their reflections.

God is Like a House

God is like a house because He holds all of us. He keeps us warm.
God feels safe and so does your house. God is strong; your house is strong.
God is like a house.

Hadley Dorrell



God is like a Pair of Shoes

God is like a good pair of shoes. He helps us walk through life. God is with us everywhere we go, just like shoes. We always have shoes on and we always have God with us. Our shoes protect our feet from harm like God protects us from everything bad that might happen.

Molly Cross