

Centered in Jesus, Saint Gabriel Catholic School is committed to excellence in developing our faith, academics, and service.

Saint Gabriel Catholic School Mission Statement, reviewed in 2008

FIFTH GRADE GAZETTE
ST. GABRIEL CATHOLIC SCHOOL



May, 2010

RELIGION: During the month of May we discussed the feasts of Mary celebrated throughout the liturgical year. How to pray the rosary was another topic of discussion. We then learned that our families are the “domestic church.” It is there we first have the experience of a loving and caring community. The Theological virtues of Faith, Hope, and Love and the Cardinal virtues of Prudence, Justice, Temperance, and Fortitude were our next focus of study. We ended our religion classes with a review, playing Bible Blurt and spending time in meditative prayer.

MATH: In continuing our study of geometry, students identified parts of circles and learned the formula for finding the circumference of circles. Other formulas learned were for finding the areas of parallelograms and triangles. With this knowledge we then found the areas of irregular polygons by cutting them into several smaller polygons. Our thinking skills were certainly challenged!

SOCIAL STUDIES: We have learned about the expansion and exploration of the United States after the Revolutionary War. The Civil War is our current stop on our historical journey. We have viewed some interesting videos and have made graphic organizers about this tragic and bloody period in our country’s past. We will write from the voice of a Southerner and Northerner about the issue of slavery. Part of social studies is learning and practicing leadership qualities. On Field Day it was our responsibility to keep track of the younger students; being sure that everyone was involved and encouraging all to do their best without worrying about winning or losing. We are proud to say that we received many compliments from parents as well as teachers about our excellent leadership skills!

READING: We finished *Johnny Tremain* and played the *Jeopardy*-style game mentioned last month. In teams we made Bloom’s Balls depicting our favorite scenes, favorite and least favorite characters, the setting, plot, recommendations, conflicts, and different endings, etc. We are currently back in our textbook focusing on skills such as main ideas / supporting details and predicting events in a story. The genres covered were historical fiction and narrative nonfiction.

SCIENCE: We started May by finishing our unit on energy by learning about light and sound. We then shared our science fair projects, which were awesome. We discussed the Earth’s Crust and did activities on tectonics. We will finish the year with the solar system and astronomy. It has been a busy month.

LANGUAGE ARTS: We continued to make posters and write ads for our special days. Our grammar study has focused on recognizing pronouns and using them to enhance sentences. We can also differentiate between subject and object pronouns. Our final areas of study will be prepositions, prepositional phrases, and conjunctions.

MISCELLANEOUS: Our final day sponsored by the fifth grade was a time to read and enjoy a snack. Our original plan was to do this outside, but the weather didn’t cooperate. It didn’t spoil our fun, however, as we moved to all different areas of the school and found unique places to read.

It has been my pleasure to work with your children. I wish you and them God’s blessings this summer and always.