



# Grade Four News

January 20, 2012



We have reached the end of the 2<sup>nd</sup>. Quarter and are half way through the school year. Report cards are coming home on Wednesday, 1/25. Conferences are being set up for Thursday, Feb.16th and Thursday, Feb. 23<sup>rd</sup>., these are optional or teacher request conferences. If you have any concerns or questions feel free to contact us to set up a day and time to meet. We do not have to wait until February if you have questions, concerns, or want more input. We are open to talking with you when the need arises, not just at scheduled conference times.

Please, review your child's report card with them. Be sure to discuss more than the letter grades. Have them tell you what they think are some of their strengths and some areas or concepts they could improve on.

Together, as partners, our goal is to help your child use their talents and develop in to the best person they can be--body, mind, and soul. With such wonderful students, how can we miss on this goal?

## Religion

The students found out about Saint Francis de Sales, the "Gentle Saint." Francis loved children and taught them to be considerate and respectful of others. His feast day is on January 24<sup>th</sup>. See if your child can share anything they learned about this gentle and caring person.

"Thy Kingdom Come" is an important part of the Lord's Prayer-The Our Father. Why? We are learning more about the third person of the Holy Trinity-The Holy Spirit. The Spirit has a vital part in our spiritual learning. The gifts and fruit of the Spirit help us to live the Beatitudes, and bring about the Kingdom of God. Choices we make can be guided by the Holy Spirit. We need to stop and be still, so the Spirit can work in and through us.

The units of our Religion Book that focus in on: Creation, God the Father, and Jesus the Son have been completed. Look at your child's book to see all the concepts they've studied and discussed. Faith is the best gift you can give your child, and the role modeling done by adults has the most influence on the behaviors they exhibit or choose. Keep sharing your values and expectations with your fourth grader. They are looking to you to help show them the way to the Father/Kingdom.

**FYI:** The 4<sup>th</sup> graders in the **Kulinski/King homeroom** are preparing the liturgy for **Friday, 1/27**, and the students in **Mrs. Zeinert's homeroom** are preparing the **2/3 liturgy**. Hope you can join us!

January is the month of vocations! Please remember to discuss the contents of the [blue vocations prayer bag](#) when it is your turn and return it within 2 days so that everyone gets a chance!

## Social Studies

We are off to the Southeast Region of the United States! We are looking forward to learning many new things about this area of our country. Hopefully, your child has brought home their Social Studies notebook or (SAC) study sheet to start the process of learning the **States, Abbreviations, and Capitals (SAC)**-for the Southeast Region.

Ms Kulinski will be covering the content and book material for this region. Mrs. King will be doing a project with your 4<sup>th</sup> grader on Native Americans.

Keep watching your child's assignment notebook, for things they need to study and accomplish, as we move through these two topics.

**FYI:** The next "**News Bowl**" will be on **Monday-January 30<sup>th</sup>**. Keep current with the news and events going on around us and share them with your student-if appropriate.

## Science

Today we took our quiz on four very important cycles of matter that help provide the basic needs required for our survival. Together the water and wastewater cycle ensure we have clean water available. Water is a precious resource and only 1% of the world's fresh water is in liquid form for us to use! The Carbon Dioxide/Oxygen cycle reminds us that both plants and animals are important in keeping our air clean and in the proper balance! Later this year we will learn more about these when we discuss weather and climate change. As for Nitrogen again those helpful plants make sure we are able to use Nitrogen Compounds to build proteins which are responsible for more than strong muscles.

Our posters are done and turned out very well! Students were given the opportunity to score each group members participation and score their own poster, of course I get to make the final decision on their poster grade but felt it was important for them to understand what requirements must be met for the best grade possible and just how much effort it takes.

## Math

The math skill sheet comes home with the formal report card. Please use this as a tool to congratulate your child on their growth and knowledge in the area of mathematics. Also, help them to take note of areas still being developed and the need for them to continue working on their basic facts.

(Mrs. Zeinert's) – We have taken the second AYP test and MAPS to look for areas of growth and concepts that are yet to be covered. Our goal is to achieve 90% or better on all 4<sup>th</sup> grade concepts by June! We are also working on mastering our basic facts in 3 minutes or less. Several students are reaching 100% in less than 2!

## Language Arts

Please check out the LA skill sheets that are part of our reporting system-they come home with the report card. You will see many skills that your child is working on in fourth grade. The skill's sheet gives you a lot of information on how your student is doing on literature skills, vocabulary, comprehension, grammar/language, writing, and spelling. If you have any questions or need something clarified, give us a call, write us a note, send us an email, or set up a conference. We would love to discuss your child's growth and progress with you.

**Up Coming**

**Friday, 1/27**

**King/Kulinski Homeroom- Liturgy Preparation**

**Sunday, 1/29-Sat. Feb. 4<sup>th</sup>**

**Catholic Schools' Week (check the SMM Newsletter for events and times)**

**Friday, 2/3**

**Zeinert Homeroom- Liturgy Preparation**

**Saturday, 2/11**

**Wines Around the World Fund Raiser**

**Thursday, 2/16**

**Scheduled Conferences**

**Thursday, 2/23**

**Scheduled Conferences**

**Friday, 2/24-Monday, 2/27**

**Winter Break (NO school)**

**Tuesday, 2/28**

**School resumes**

***Keep Warm!***



*Mrs. Zeinert*

*Ms. Kulinski*

*Mrs. King*

