

St. Ann School Newsletter

April 28, 2010

Volume 17, Issue 9

May: the month of Mary, Mother of God

Peter Westmore

During his 26 year pontificate, John Paul II has frequently reminded us that the month of May is, in a particular way, dedicated to Mary, the Mother of God.

In their reflection on the significance of Jesus' Passion, the Church fathers understood that when Jesus, dying in agony on the Cross, said to St John, "This is your mother", he was not merely entrusting Mary to John's care, but also making Mary the spiritual mother of all followers of Christ.

In Mary's life on earth, we see a strong woman, the author of the *Magnificat*, who was willing to embrace motherhood as a vocation from God, in all its joys and sorrows. Every mother will know exactly the meaning of the prophet Simeon's words to Mary, when Jesus was presented in the Temple in Jerusalem: "A sword will pierce your own heart".

She was with Jesus at every moment of his life: from his conception through his "hidden life" in Bethlehem, during his public ministry, at his crucifixion, and with the disciples on Pentecost Sunday, when the Holy Spirit came down upon them. She was both Jesus' model, and an example of perfect discipleship.

In following in the footsteps of Jesus, and in the richness of the Christian tradition, we find in Mary the perfect mediator between mankind and God, in whom we can confide our most private thoughts and deepest fears, asking her intercession in the confident knowledge that Jesus will hear her, as happened at the Wedding Feast at Cana.

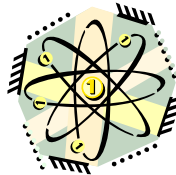


Living Rosary

Students in Grades Kindergarten through Six will be sharing a Living Rosary on Monday, May 17 at 2:00 PM in the school gym. Parents and parishioners are invited to join us for this special reflection on the Luminous Mysteries of the Rosary.

May Crowning

On Sunday, May 9th before the 10:30 AM Mass, St. Ann Parish will be honoring Mary in a special way by celebrating the tradition of May Crowning. Any children in the parish are invited to be a part of this special prayer experience by walking in procession and placing flowers at the feet of the Mary statue. The Grade Two First Communicants will be the special honor guard for this special prayer experience.



St. Ann School Science Fair

The Grade Five and Six students under the direction of Mr. Eliason will be holding a Science Fair on Tuesday, May 11 in the lower level community room from 1-3 PM and 6-7 PM Prior to the viewing of the projects by our student body, families, parishioners and friends, individual projects will be judged by judges from the Science community. We look forward to seeing you there.

**St. Ann School
Drama
Club Presents ...**



**Stoughton Opera
House**

**May 21, 7 PM
May 22, 1:30 PM
Tickets: \$7.00
Children 3 and under
free (lap seat)**



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News From The Principal's Desk

“My sheep hear my voice; I know them and they follow me.” (John 10:27-30)

When I was the Director of Education at Bluffview Montessori School in Winona, Minnesota, I had the opportunity to spend a beautiful April day on a sheep farm. The members of the O'Brien family were modern day shepherds. Tim was a sheep farmer with a Masters degree in Agricultural Management and Rose was a veterinarian, who was known throughout the nation because of her specialty in breeding sheep. The O'Brien children, Haley and Hanna, very proudly welcomed their classmates to their farm. The kids gave the nickel tour to their classmates through the barnyard and out into the open fields where the newborn lambs were frolicking and playing. Believe it or not, Haley and Hanna had names for each of the cute, woolly lambs that frolicked and tumbled down the hills. The girls expertly told us that as soon as the lambs were born they named the lambs based on how they looked and how they responded when they were petted. The girls introduced each lamb by name to their classmates. When called by name, the lambs responded by coming closer and accepted willing pets from the excited kids.

How do the sheep recognize their shepherd? They know the sound of his/her voice and he/she is able to call each one of the lambs by name. If you were a shepherd in charge of a flock what would you have to do to take care of it? Would you make sure that the sheep have plenty to eat, that none of them wander or get lost, protect them from thieves and wild animals and find them shelter from bad weather?

I remember this experience today as I recall the words of St. John's Gospel for this Sunday. We hear Jesus speak of himself as a shepherd and his followers as the sheep of his flock. Jesus is the Good Shepherd and we are the sheep who hear his voice and follow him.

Why is Jesus called the Good Shepherd? Like the shepherd, Jesus will stay with us always. He knows all of us by name and calls us to follow him. He will lead us along the right path to heaven and will protect us from harm along the way. With him before us, we can feel safe and secure because we trust him to take care of all of our needs. With Jesus as our Good Shepherd, we are loved and cared for beyond what the world can understand.

~ Joan Leonard

6th Grade Graduation Mass Friday, June 4, 7:00 PM Mass



The Grade Six students will be honored at a special Graduation Mass on Friday, June 4 at 7:00 p.m. There will be a special reception in Monsignor Healy Hall immediately following the Graduation Mass. Parents are asked to please submit pictures of the sixth grade students that have been taken throughout the years that they have been at St. Ann's. All pictures should be brought in by **Wednesday, May 12**. Please write your last name on the back of the pictures so that they can be returned to you, or pictures may be submitted on a CD.

Congratulations to our sixth graders: Carmen Cruz, Chandler Hellenbrand, Samuel Hynek, Joseph Jensen, Mary Claire Mancl, Emily Manhart, Nicholas Manhart, Jesse Mowery, Sam Neumeyer, Alex Pigarelli, Connor Roisum, Gabriel Ross, Anna Schieldt, Joseph Skotzke, Josephine Talbert, Thomas Tobias, Ian Trautman, Matthew Wagner and Emma Waldorf.

May/June Calendar of Events

May 1/2	5:15 PM Sat. & 10:30 AM Sun. Mass—1st Eucharist
May 4	6:30 PM, Spring Program
May 5	7 PM Confirmation to be held at HMC
May 7, 14, 21, 28	8:10 AM School Mass
May 7	6th to Camp Gray—Retreat
May 9	May Crowning before the 10:30 AM Mass
May 9	Happy Mother's Day
May 11	1—3 PM and 6—7 PM, 5th & 6th Science Fair
May 13	6:30 PM H&S Steering Committee Mtg.
May 14-16	Syttende Mai Weekend, St. Ann's School participates on Saturday, May 15 Children's parade
May 17	Final Tuition Payment Due
May 17	2:00 PM, Living Rosary; Coffee Orders due
May 22	Alice in Wonderland, Jr. 7:00 PM, Stoughton Opera House
May 23	Alice in Wonderland, Jr. 1:30 PM, Stoughton Opera House
May 24	5-6 PM, Market Day Pick-up
May 28	Early Release at 11:20 AM
May 31	No School, Memorial Day
June 1	2010-11 Curriculum Fee is due.
	6th grade field trip—Chicago Shedd Aquarium
June 2	4th & 5th Grade field trip to Milwaukee Museum
June 3	1st & 2nd Grade field trip to Discovery Center in Rockford
June 4	8:10 AM all school Mass, Last Day of Class, K—6 Picnic
June 4	7:00 PM, 6th Grade Graduation Mass and Reception
June 20	Happy Father's Day
June 25	Ordination of David Carrano at St. Maria Goretti
June 26	First Mass of Rev. David Carrano, Mass of Thanksgiving at 1 PM at St. Ann Parish, Open to all parishioners followed by Open House in the gym and Individual Blessings from Father David.

Your Next Issue of St. Ann School Newsletter

This is the final newsletter for the 2009-10 school year. We will be sending your next newsletter in the mail in late July/early August to prepare you and your child for returning to school in September 2010. The newsletter will contain your tuition statement, school calendar, school supply list and any other information required to get ready for school. Have a safe and wonderful summer. We'll see you next fall!

Spring Program

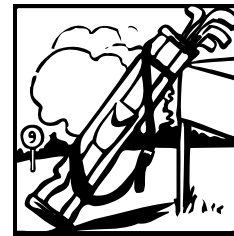
Miss Depons and the students of Kindergarten through Grade Six will be celebrating the wonderful gifts of God's creation through song on Tuesday, May 4 at 6:30 p.m. in Church. A reception will be held in the gym following the program. We look forward to celebrating the beauty of Spring with you on Tuesday, May 4th.

Syttende Mai Parade Float – May 15th



Syttende Mai is less than a month away and St. Ann's school will again be entering a float in the Kids' Parade. The Parade is May 15th, approximately 12:45-2:00 PM, please mark it on your calendar. Permission slips as well as additional details to follow in next week's Wednesday Memo – Stay tuned!

Annual Golf Outing Scheduled Monday, August 16, 2010

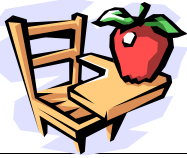


The Home and School Association's Annual Golf Outing is scheduled for Monday, August 16, 2010 at the Stoughton Country Club.

We are trying a 9 Hole Twilight Golf this year with tee off at 4:30 p.m. A picnic style dinner will follow with raffle drawings, door prizes and golf awards. The cost for 9 holes, a cart and dinner is \$45 per person, \$180 per four person team and just \$15 per person to attend the dinner only.

Britton Roth is the chairperson for this event and can be contacted at 498-0218 or brittonroth@hotmail.com for volunteer opportunities or questions. Hole and cart sponsorship is also available again this year. Contact Britton to promote a business, student or family.

Look for registration forms for this event in the school family envelopes, online at www.stanns-school.org or the parish bulletin this summer.



Classroom News



Pre-K News

Spring has definitely arrived in the PK room! The three year olds have new butterfly name cards that they decorated with dot paint. Even amid all the color, they can still recognize their names in a flash! We read the book It Looked Like Split Milk and created a bulletin board with their paintings. The children were quite creative in their interpretations. They have also been enjoying Station Day, which gives the children a chance to use the smaller manipulatives and strengthen their muscles and coordination skills while having a fun time!

The four year olds have been doing many projects with butterflies. They watercolor painted their own butterflies, using coffee filters. These colorful creatures are flying around near the windows sharing their colors with people inside and outside. Butterflies



were also the subject of a recent religion lesson. We talked about God's surprises, such as seeds and bulbs growing into flowers, rainbows, unique snowflakes, and the transition from egg to caterpillar to butterfly. We are also awaiting the arrival of some real caterpillars. We will keep them in our room and watch them eat and grow for a while. Then they'll be moved to our Butterfly Pavilion until they emerge as butterflies. After a few days, they will be released into the garden so they can explore God's great world.

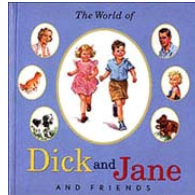
In the coming weeks, the PK classes will recognize May Day, Mother's Day, and Father's Day. For our Syttende Mai celebration we will be decorating Norwegian flags, experimenting with rosemary, and cooking krumkake—YUM!

The last day of class we will have a party for each group (June 3rd and 4th). Family members are all invited. More details will be coming home soon. I can't believe this year is coming to a close already. It has been a wonderful year full of learning and growing!!

~ Mrs. Fields

Kindergarten News

Well, we have almost completed our journey of Jesus' life in class and also in our "Little Stories about God" book. The children now know from Genesis to Jesus' disciples being visited by the Holy Spirit. Ask a kindergartener about the "tongues of fire"! And about how Jesus' disciples feel good and brave enough to go spread the word of the Lord, and so can we.



In Math, we are almost done learning our coins and their values, and we can almost all write numbers to 100 without making any backwards, plus we are writing our own addition and subtraction facts.

In Reading, we are at many different levels of reading, but we are ALL almost through the first 12 Dick and Jane Books, so we can each read almost 100 words!

We are on our Ward Brodt, Stoughton Fire Station, and McDonald's Field trip today, and looking forward to going to the zoo next month!

~ Mrs. McGuire

What's Happening in 1st Grade?

The Easter season brings signs of life and growth and that has surely been seen in the first grade class. In religion class we are learning about the sacraments and that these sacraments bring us closer to Jesus. One way we can grow closer to God is by making a difference in the world. One way we are doing that is by keeping our Earth's environment a wonderful place to live. For Earth Day we planted flowers and read stories about how to recycle and keep God's world beautiful.

The Air and Weather FOSS science kit and our fieldtrip to the Aldo Leopold Nature Center have given the first graders many great hands-on experiences with air. We have found how and why we can keep paper towel dry when put in water and we made parachutes to explore air resistance. In Social Studies, we are learning about the marketplace. We have read about goods and services and jobs and volunteers. The first graders are currently working on their own market projects. They have partnered up to create a good or service. We are learning about advertisements, promotions, and money through this project. We look forward to inviting the second graders back to "shop" at our market.



It is exciting to see the students progress through our reading program. We are currently in Theme Five. We are finishing up our Leo Lionni author study. Through his stories, he has taught us to appreciate our own individual strengths. In Math we have been busy doing many things. We have been counting coins, creating and reading picture graphs, comparing numbers, and much more. We are excited to put our money skills into practice for our upcoming market.

Mrs. Prechel, Mrs. Donovan, and myself had a wonderful experience at the NCEA teacher convention. It has been great using many of the new ideas I learned. We hope you have enjoyed the spring and Easter season has much as we have!

~ Mrs. Hoyer

Second Grade News

Now that the school year is coming to a close, we are preparing for 3rd grade in all of our subjects. In Math we are practicing adding and subtracting "big"



numbers - to the thousands, telling time on an analog clock, measurement, and will end the year with some beginning multiplication. The stories we are reading in Language Arts have gotten longer and the vocabulary more complicated - and we love it! Writer's Workshop is a time for writing when the students choose their own

writing projects. Some are writing fictional stories, others are researching and writing nonfiction, and we also have comics, joke books, personal narratives, mysteries, and more! Students have learned how to use the writing process of pre-writing, drafting, revising, editing, and publishing.

Social Studies and Science are closely related during this time of year. The Foss kit on rocks, soil, and silt has been great. The kids can sort rocks and know the difference between rocks, pebbles, gravel, sand, silt, and clay. With this we are learning how to take care of our earth, what our natural resources are, and the difference between reducing, reusing, and recycling. Look for our class project near the flagpole. Students raked, planted, and mulched in order to take care of our earth in ways that God would desire of us.

Second graders have been working hard preparing to receive their First Eucharist. We learned about Jesus' ultimate sacrifice during Lent and enjoyed learning about the very first Eucharist celebration - The Last Supper. Lately



we have been reading stories of Eucharist and stories of Jesus' life on earth after his Resurrection. Jesus has given us footsteps to follow and we are learning all the ways we can "be like Him." More importantly, we are putting that knowledge into action. We can't wait until we have received the special blessing the Eucharist will give us to help us to be stewards of God. Help me to congratulate all of St. Ann's Second Grade Students - Elizabeth, Alexander, Evan, Megan, Derek, Nicholas, Matthew, Emma, John, Erin, Jack, Chloe, Ashlyn, Ron, Gabbi, and Patrick!

~ Mrs. Prechel

Third Grade News

The third graders received several thank you notes from the special groups to whom we donated book. It was nice to hear how much the new books were loved and used by so many people. We have finished reading 50 more books for Scholastic, and now they will be donating books to the children of families on military bases!

We learned so much about the Norwegian culture at the Sons of Norway Lodge in Stoughton. We practiced



rosemary; learned about folklore, trolls, bunads, and Vikings; and enjoyed some krumkake and waffles. We hope to have a walking field trip to the Stoughton Historical Museum sometime in May to learn more about our past. We will also take a day to visit Little Norway and Cave of the Mounds.

Our final unit in Religion teaches us to live like Jesus and make good choices. We will also learn more about the rosary during the month of May. We are busy writing our realistic fiction stories right now, and when we complete the writing we will add illustrations and share them with our classmates. Our book report this month involves creating a puppet show - should be fun to watch! Fun fractions and dizzy decimals will be our focus in Math. Science will deal with matter (solids, liquids, gases), and then we'll finish out the year studying the sky and the solar system. Social Studies has been fun as we learn about our country's history and how we became the great nation we are today!

~ Mrs. Donovan

Fourth Grade Religion



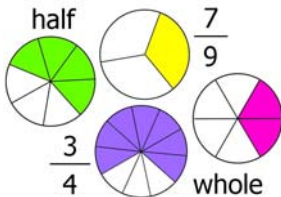
Happy Easter! Alleluia! He is risen! In fourth grade religion class, we have spent much time discussing what this means in our personal lives. The kids have come so far in their knowledge of the New Testament Gospel stories and our Catholic catechism. Their Lenten journals were wonderful, and some of them were very touching. I wish I could have saved them!

This summer, I hope the kids will continue their daily prayers of gratitude (they shoot for 100 each day!) and practicing the Hail Holy Queen, but they may need a few reminders. It's been a great year -- and I feel so lucky to have been a part of their daily lives. Thank you!

~ Mrs. Talbert

4th Grade News

The fourth graders just finished their famous Wisconsinite project and performed a wax museum for the other classes. The kids dressed like their person and had a one minute speech about their person. We are currently discussing immigrants of Wisconsin and looking at how Wisconsin became a state. Next month we will be touring the state capitol and starting our last project on their Wisconsin city.



In Math, students are learning about fractions. We have looked at how to make equivalent fractions, how to compare fractions, and how to order fractions. They have also discovered how to make a mixed number an improper fraction and vice versa. We will be looking at adding fractions and making decimals into

fractions soon.

For Science, students have learned the properties of magnets and how they attract objects made of iron or steel. We talked about the magnetic force and how it can attract and repel an item. We are moving on to electricity and circuits this week.

In Reading, students are reading the historical fiction book *Snow Treasures*. We are meeting in groups to discuss chapters and answer different types of questions. They are required to come to the meeting with a factual or prediction question pertaining to the story. Finally, they are also answering comprehension questions about the story of Norwegian children and their journey to sneak gold past Nazi guards. In English, we have finished adverbs and have started adjectives. In Writing, the kids have completed their mystery stories and will be reading them to the parents this week. They are currently working on their compare and contrast paper on a book and movie they have read and watched. The goal is for students to find similarities between the book and the movie as well as differences.

~ Mrs. Grutzner

Mrs. Stano's Classes

I cannot believe that we are only 6 weeks out to the close of another successful school year! It is so true what they say, time really does fly when you are having fun!

In fifth grade religion class, we will be looking at our last unit of study on *Living Like Jesus*. We will be discussing moral decision making, living a moral life, the way of Jesus, and how the sacraments bring us closer to Jesus. I have noticed how reflective the fifth grade has become about their faith. We are having good discussions that have a lot of thoughtful and insightful questions and comments.

The Fifth Grade will be making their last trip to the Catholic Multicultural Center in May. This has been a very rewarding experience for everyone. I am very proud of the way that the fifth grade answered the call to stewardship.

The Fifth Grade reading class is enjoying the novel, *The Watson's Go To Birmingham, 1963*. They have been

working on understanding each character involved in the story by defining the character's traits and how those traits help with the role that the character plays in the story. We have also been discussing the use of figurative language, flashbacks, setting, and conflict resolution.

The Fifth Grade is working to put their fairytales that they wrote into a Hyper Studio project. They are illustrating their story and then embedding their voice into the project to tell the story. They are eager to share the final projects with the younger classes. The Fifth Grade is also working on their research papers for the science fair with the help of our wonderful classroom volunteer, Mrs. Joan Laffey.



The Sixth Grade is very involved with the novel that they are reading entitled, *The Boy in the Striped Pajamas*. As Mr. E is teaching about the history of WWII, I have the ability to take what they know of the history and set it to this gripping story. We have had wonderful discussions on the characters and their interactions with one another and the struggles that the characters' encounter because of how life was all those years ago. We have been looking at how the author has crafted this story with the use of flashbacks and sensory imagery. It is wonderful to hear the sixth grade discuss and analyze this piece of literature. The Sixth Grade is also working on a study of adjectives.

~ Mrs. Stano

Mr. Eliason's Classes

It's hard to believe we are closing in on the end of another school year, where has the time gone? The 6th graders have had a very successful year and I have enjoyed teaching each one of them for a second year. In religion, we have been studying the life and times of King David and the many events that took place in his life. Next, we will be taking a look at some other religions around the world and the differences between them and Catholicism.



In Math we are well into our Geometry chapter. The students already had a great deal of knowledge on this topic from 5th grade, making this chapter very enjoyable. We will be creating our tessellations as a culmination of the Geometry unit.

We have continued to study World War II in Social Studies. Each day we read and discuss about reasons for the war, battles, or the Holocaust, the students have excellent questions and thoughts about the war. As we study the war, I know the kids are thankful for the many men and women who risked and continue to risk their lives for our freedom.

In 5th grade Math we have started to multiply fractions and mixed numbers. We will soon move to dividing fractions. The 5th graders have done a great job on the fraction chapters and will have an excellent base of knowledge for 6th grade Math, which is very challenging.

In Social Studies we are discussing some of the smaller wars sandwiched between the Revolutionary and Civil Wars such as the War of 1812 and Texas' fight for independence from Mexico. Soon, we will delve into the Civil War, which will take us to the end of the school year.



Lastly, in Science, both the 5th and 6th graders have been working very diligently on their science fair projects. There are a lot of creative ideas and the effort that the students have put in has been exceptional. By the looks of it, this year's science fair will be a huge success and you will be very impressed with the quality of work of your child and of many others. As a reminder, the science fair will be held on Tuesday, May 11 from 1:00-2:45 and 6:00-7:00 in the lower level. Please stop by and check out the quality work of the 5th and 6th grade science students!

~Mr. E

News From The Art Room

First through fourth grade classes are working on clown face drawings. The first and second grade will use chalk pastels to complete their project. Third grade will use oil pastels for their clown pictures. Fourth grade will learn to mix paint, studying monochromatic. They will then paint their clown faces in a monochromatic color scheme, which consists of different values of one single color.

Fifth and sixth grades are both working with metal. Fifth grade students are using birds as their subject matter, pressing their design into the metal and adding color with markers. They are also creating a metal picture frame for their metal birds. Sixth grade continues to work on their metal puppets. The results, so far, are very whimsical. They will use their puppets to act out their play they are writing in language arts class.



The artist of the month is Henri Rousseau. We have specifically been looking at his "The Football Players" painting, painted in 1908. They are actually playing rugby in the painting and it has been fun discussing the difference between American football and rugby. A thank you must go to a certain first grader who "googled" the information about the game of rugby for me.

When your kids need a break from moving this summer, have them draw.

~Mrs. Jamison

Noticias de la clase de Español

Bienvenidos Primavera- Welcome springtime!



In the Kindergarten, we have been welcoming spring. We made some pretty colorful flowers while listening to directions in Spanish. We continue to work on our songs, the alphabet and numbers too.

The first grade has been busy with their classroom nouns. They are also following directions in Spanish...such as "bring me the yellow crayon" and "give me two green markers." It's so great to see them simply do what is asked...no need to think about what the words mean anymore!

The second grade continues to pray the Gloria in Spanish as we begin class. We are having a ton of fun practicing body parts. I give them drawing directions in Spanish...mostly silly...and you should see the crazy looking people (?) they end up with! They have cuatro ojos-four eyes, dos bocas-two mouths and veinte brazos-twenty arms!!!

The third grade has been praying the Ave María-Hail Mary in Spanish to begin our classtime each week. We just started Lección 9-Numbers 21-30. We still need to practice the other numbers so we don't forget, so number BINGO is a lot of fun!

The fourth grade just started Lección 14-La Ropa, or clothing. It's a lot of fun to add new vocabulary to our studies because the fourth grade always has a lot to talk about! Next year there will be a few more clothing lessons as we expand on the basics.

The fifth and sixth graders just took a quiz on all the vocabulary words they have learned thus far. We have been working more on translation sentences and answering questions in writing lately. Next up for them is Lección 14-clothing.

~Mrs. Wahlin

Music Classes

We've been working hard and are excited to perform our spring concert next week! Students have been doing a fantastic job learning their songs for the concert, and even though there are a few more songs this year, they are catching on really fast! Kindergarten has enjoyed working with the scarves they'll sing with, and 1st-4th grades have been shaping up some choreography for their numbers. Grades 5 and 6 have improved their part singing, and are making some very nice harmonies these days! It should be a visually and audibly great show!

Our music making won't stop once the concert is over, though. We'll be spending more time creating in music class. In

Kindergarten we will be continuing to learn about animals through the musical story *The Carnival of the Animals* by Camille Saint-Saens. Not only will they hear songs that sound like animals, but they will see a beautifully illustrated book, and create movements to go with each animal. First grade will continue learning about *so* and *mi* patterns of melody, and learn a new pitch, *la*. We will find these three pitches in new songs and movement games like "Lucy Locket" and "Doggie Doggie".



Third and fourth grade will begin practice in writing music symbols and composing melodies on the staff. We will use fun music Internet sites to help us create our melodies and hear them played on different instruments.

Fifth and sixth grade will be reviewing the composers they've studied throughout the year, and prepare for a listening test on the compositions of each composer. We've enjoyed putting a composer and title to some of the most common classical tunes we hear in commercials, movies, and cartoons. We'll finish the year off by learning more about what it takes to compose and creating some compositions of our own.

~ Ms. DePons

Computer Classes

I am so thrilled with the progress the students have made this year. Not only have they learned numerous applications, but they have really taken a huge step in taking their trouble shooting skills and applying them to new technologies.



The 6th Grade is just finishing the yearbook and will be closing the year, working with Excel. I have teamed up with Mrs. Stano and the 5th Grade to create a Hyperstudio presentation of their "fractured" fairytales they created in Language Arts. The plan is to show them to the Kindergarten, and I can't wait to see their reaction. The stories are hilarious, and the artwork is fantastic.

Mrs. "G" and I are also working together with the 4th Grade to create a Wisconsin alphabet calendar in MsPublisher. Their calendars will contain important landmarks, people, and items related to Wisconsin. It's a great opportunity for them to apply their research to something creative.

The 3rd Grade, meanwhile, has finished their Powerpoint shows about themselves. We took a great amount of time completing this unit, but their learning involved much more than Powerpoint; they also learned how to download and convert YouTube videos and download images from Microsoft's website. The 2nd Grade has finished their newsletters about something that interests them, using MsWord. They'll be spending May creating a Pixie show about their First Communion experiences. Finally, the 1st Grade is getting the hang of using clipart in Word and will be finishing out the year refining their formatting skills in both Word and Pixie.

~ Mrs. Roisum

News from The Gym

The weather says springtime which means we will start running our lap outside around the school at the start of the fourth, fifth and sixth grade P. E. classes. I have many kids who are excited about running a timed mile again this spring to see if they can beat their time from this past fall.

All age groups recently completed a short unit of volleyball. The older kids use actual volleyballs to practice the skills while the younger kids use large beach balls in place of volleyballs. Grades two and up played volleyball-like games over a volleyball net strung across the middle of the gym and using the large beach balls.

We will wrap up the school year with my customary track and field unit for all grades. The kids will experience running hurdles, passing a baton, broad jumping and of course, running. The fifth and sixth grade will take their annual trip up to the high school track sometime in late May. Keep your kids moving over the summer.

~Mrs. Jamison

