



**Noonan Academy
Second Grade Newsletter
March 2010**



Saints: St. Patrick

Virtues: Fortitude

Proverbs: When the going gets tough, the tough get going.

Scripture Quotes: God is charity; and he that abideth in charity abideth in God, and God in him (1 John 4:16)

Character Education: We will be learning about etiquette, table manners, and polite gestures. Students will practice what they learn in mock situations and skits. We will read and discuss stories that highlight our Six Pillars of Character. We will talk about being prepared for emergencies and how to create our own first aid kits.

Miss Wichman

Religion: I am pleased to introduce myself as your child's new religion teacher. I am a Lector, Catechist and Eucharistic Minister at Blessed Pope John XXIII. It gives me great pleasure to assist Dr. Noonan as she was kind enough to allow my beloved parish to begin in her gym eight years ago. I completed my undergraduate studies at Saint. Thomas Aquinas College and minored in secondary education. While living in New York I had my 7-12th certification to teach history. I also earned my graduate degree from Fordham University in Social Work. I look forward teaching my faith and to getting to know your children.

Mrs. Millan

Reading: This month we will begin working in our new book beginning with a unit on Responsibilities. The children will be reading the following stories: "A Pair of Red Clogs" by Masako Matsuno, "The Pudding Like a Night on the Sea" by Ann Cameron, "The Tale of Peter Rabbit" by Beatrix Potter, and "Three Hundred Spartans" by Rebecca Guay. We will be writing in our journals, working on characterization, and vocabulary. We continue to work in our QuickReads and Analogy books. This month we will be talking about and reading Dr. Seuss books in celebration of his birthday.

Miss Wichman

Science: During this month, weather has been the focus, and what a perfect month for that topic. We've measured rainfall right outside our door and checked temperatures inside and outside of the classroom. Our class has its own rain gauge and three thermometers. We started learning about the earth's water cycle along with a first attempt at a basic outline.

Mrs. Haas

Handwriting: We have finished learning all of our lower case cursive letters. It's great to hear everyone's excitement about handwriting time! Everyone has been trying very hard and it shows. Next up are our capital cursive letters!

Miss Wichman

Social Studies: February allowed us to study Abraham Lincoln and George Washington for facts about their lives and their admirable character traits. While the Olympics became a favorite national topic, we also learned about the games. The games also gave the opportunity to discuss what competing by the rules with honor means.

Mrs. Haas

Math: As they finish Plane and Solid Geometry, they are already moving into money and will be working with time. The most difficult part of time is the idea of elapsed time. For example – school starts at 8:00 and ends at 3:00. How many hours have passed?

Mrs. Haas

English: We have learned the jingles for proposition and object of the preposition. Students are now working on identifying prepositional phrases in sentences along with labeling nouns, verbs, adverbs, adjectives, and article adjectives. We continue to review complete and simple subject and predicate, synonyms/antonyms, common/proper nouns, and singular/plural nouns. We will begin learning the rules of capitalization. We are working on memorizing the poem "The Land of Nod" by Robert Louis Stevenson.

Miss Wichman

Phonics/Vocabulary & Spelling: As combinations become more ingrained, focus will shift to vowel/letter combinations and sounds such as ew and ue. More time is being spent with applying coding to less common vowel patterns. They are learning what to do when their first try with the most common vowel pattern doesn't work. Over the next month the challenge words for each spelling test will include a review of Mrs. Noonan's vocabulary words.

Mrs. Haas

Vocabulary:

Verbose – wordy; overly talkative

Veracity – truthfulness

Spanish: We finished the unit called *Todo el ano* (The Whole Year). We reviewed the calendar, months of the year, days of the week, seasons, and some clothing articles that are worn in the winter. Everyone did such a good job learning the poem about the months and seasons. In the next unit we will be learning about farm animals and the products we obtain from them. It will be fun to learn songs and poems about farm animals in Spanish of course.

Mrs. Piper

Art: The children will be working on a St. Patrick's Day Project with three parts. They will be coloring, utilizing their fine motor skills with the scissors as well as organizing and gluing together their finished product.

Mrs. Millan

Music: Everyone is getting revved up for the Spring Musical! We'll be practicing lines, dancing and singing in class this month. All students should be practicing their lines with parents at home.

Mrs. Schroeder

Physical Education: We begin the dance unit for the month of March. Students will focus especially on coordination, rhythmic accuracy and the ability to repeat a group of motions in a sequence.

Mrs. Schroeder

Students of the month: Chase
Laura

Happy Birthday! Mason

***Please remember to check red folders and agendas nightly. Thank you!**