



At Saint Jerome School, these are some of the ways we lived our Mission this week....November 4, 2011

First, a story...at the Mass on the Feast of All Saints, Father Blaney was asking the classes if they could tell him what a saint is. One by one the answers came... they are people who were kind, they did nice things, they dedicated their lives to God, they believed in Jesus... and then came the answer, "They lived the mission!" Father responded, "I think they're getting the message, Mrs. Puleo." Though I didn't say it in church, my thought was, "They've had it all along. We're just helping them see it a little more clearly."

Enjoy the read!

Academic excellence

I had the pleasure of hearing Grade 5 share their brown bag book reports this week. Each student's bag was decorated to illustrate the book title. Some wore costumes, some made props and all did a fine job. They were able to be concise while creating a great sense of the story line. They chose everything from Harry Potter to Diary of a Wimpy Kid, sports stories to mystery. Well done, Grade 5!

If you ever want to see something special, visit K-2 when they are READING. All K-2 students read to me on Thursday from a book that contained all the sight words and word families they have been working on over the past 3 weeks. To think that these little ones have already unlocked the door to reading is amazing. I can't wait to go back for another story. Thanks K-2!

Grade 1 was also working on word families to add to their wall words. Once on the wall it becomes a permanent vocabulary word for them to use. Mrs. Santry was even talking about prefixes as part of her explanation to one answer. Challenging stuff, Grade 1!

Grade 2- WOW! on that morning routine. To see you leading your class in counting patterns, weather, fact families, the date and using the SMART board is very impressive. I think there are some future teachers in this class!

Mr. Sheehan, our wonderful 5th grade French teacher had a nice surprise waiting for him in Grade 4 this week. You might remember that Mr. Sheehan was responsible for getting us our SMART boards so Mrs. DiVito and her class invited him in for a demonstration of our new SENTEOS response devices. They are mastering their multiplication tables and were doing a review. After sending their response via the clicker, they got immediate feedback by viewing a graph and the percentage of students who got the correct answer. They were all smiles when the graph showed how well they are doing!



Academic excellence, continued

Thanks for being the first to try out these special tools, Grade 4. Mrs. DiVito will be helping all teachers learn how to use them in their classrooms very soon.

By now you know I have been asking your teachers for packets of your school work each week to see how you are all doing. This week I saw Math papers from many classes and I know there are many, many students who are working very hard to do well. I saw everything from K-2's drawings to represent numbers they are learning up to Grade 8's solution of Algebraic equations. A friendly reminder for Grades on the second floor... show your work. I saw that written by your teachers several times. Great job overall.

Last Friday we had a possible new parent in for a visit to K-2. While I was there I got to see Ms. Nowelle teaching music- Talk about multi-tasking... Ms. Nowelle had the students thoroughly engaged in a music lesson on the SMART board. They were singing a song about the colors of the past week: orange and green. The students were singing the spellings of the colors, acting out the words to the song and sitting very attentively on the rug. Great job, Ms. Nowelle and K-2.

Thank you to all of you who are working so hard on your Veterans Day songs. You know that our observance of Veterans Day is a way to thank the men and women who have done so much for us. Your songs will be a sign of both respect and gratitude. Please continue to give it all you've got!

Faith at the center of what we do

While in Grade 5 I also had a chance to see some of the other work on display and their, "Who Am I?" papers caught my eye. One of the clues to their identity began, "I advance the kingdom of God by..." Their answers were beautiful. Some advanced it at home, others at school, some with friends and others even saw it on their teams. Keep advancing the Kingdom, Grade 5!

Tuesday we went to Mass to celebrate All Saints Day. Father Blaney thought we had prepared the Mass as we do on First Fridays but we thought it was a parish Mass and had not assigned any readings or servers. It took all of 2 minutes and lots raised hands to bring the team together. A special thanks to Haley Marshall and Victoria Putnam for their willingness to present the readings and to Patrick Kelly and Chris Page for serving. All of you added to the Mass experience by the way you sang and the beautiful way you received the Eucharist. Thank you.



Faith at the center of what we do, continued

Miss Kreckie and Grade 6 have prepared today's Mass and our November prayer service in the chapel which I hope you will all have the chance to share over the next few weeks.

We are currently praying for our beautiful friend, Charlotte Kelly, who is very sick, Christopher Cort's family, Mrs. Plevock's niece, Megan Delery, a friend named Eugene, members of the McDonough, Sheehan and MacKenzie families, a school parent recently diagnosed, our veterans and others on our prayer list. Please remember them daily.

Community through service

Several students in Grade 7 and 8 were a huge help at the Halloween Party running games, face painting and offering general help. Thanks to all who helped. You made it extra special for the little ones! And Taylor and MacKenzie Higgins' gift of goodies and pumpkins to the K-2 students was a sweet treat! Thank you girls!

I wish you all could have seen the look on Mrs. Burke's face when she saw ALL your donations for The Angel's Voice orphanage and received our check from Dress Down Day. It was a special moment and one YOU made possible. God bless each of you who donated in any way and an extra thanks to those in the Youth Ministry who sorted and boxed all the donations.

The installation of our student government officers and representatives begins their year-long commitment to help make our school even better. Thanks again to all who participated in the process and best of luck to those who will take on their new responsibilities today.

A special shout-out to K-1, K-2 and Grade 1 for your great costumes and even more for all the "thank-yous" I heard when you came Trick-or-treating at my office. Thanks to all the parents who have been volunteering in our school and in the classrooms with special crafts for Halloween and the Craft Fair and an EXTRA BIG thanks to the parents who are running the Craft Fair and the parishioners who have donated some lovely handmade items for the Fair. A shout out also to Jacob Mullaney who Ms. Rubera shares is asking a TON of questions and to try problems he's struggling with, Daniela Uquizo who is really moving forward with her participation and Cam Sullivan whose effort, work, and drive is outstanding.



Community through service, continued

And my final shout-out goes to the team members of the Lego Lions and their parents who are doing what it takes to have the team ready to compete on December 3. You make me so proud!

You are all on your way to becoming saints if you keep doing all the wonderful things you do! Thank you for the effort you put into being good kids and thank you for all the ways you find to live the Mission!

Enjoy the weekend!

Mrs. Puleo

p.s. If you go on our website you will see several pictures of all the good going on as we live the mission!