



At Saint Jerome School, these are some of the ways we lived our Mission this week....September 23, 2011

Academic excellence

Grade 5 wrote some great self-descriptions which reflected careful thought and clever thinking. Their pictures made them extra special.

Grade 1 wrote letters to Emily Cusano's dad's friend, Capt. Murphy, who is serving in Afghanistan. I'm sure that receiving letters from these great kids will bring a smile to his face!

Nicholas Ryan went to the Big-E in Springfield and gave his presentation on Rachel Carson who was a well-known environmentalist. By all accounts he did a terrific job and we are looking forward to his presentation for the school.



Faith at the center of what we do

I had the pleasure of teaching Religion in Grade 3 on Thursday. We talked about St. Ignatius of Loyola and how important prayer was to him. We learned to pray the Examen which is a beautiful way to pray. I will share it with all of you. After sharing a story about my niece who struggles with diabetes and how she went to Africa this year to do service at an orphanage, I finished my lesson by encouraging the children to count their many blessings. Just before I left, Elizabeth Galicki came up to me and said, "God bless your niece." This is the kind of thoughtfulness I love to see and hear every day. It was a tiny moment but it meant so much. See if you can find a tiny way to make a big difference for someone today.

Community through service

I am very grateful for all the ways Grade 8 is finding to do their service hours... helping in the lunchroom, on the playground, greeting K-1 students in the morning, keeping the tradition of prayer bracelets going for hospitalized children, caring for the goats at Glastonbury Abbey and much more.

Grade 6 welcomed Jack Crowley back to school after breaking his leg 3 weeks ago. Everyone pitched in to make Jack feel like he hadn't missed a day! Thank you! Our Parent Council and many of your parents are working so hard to help us have a great school. They work with each other and with many of the businesses in our community to make a big difference in what we are able to offer. Some of your parents help us with things like lunch duty. Please thank your parents who are volunteering and tell them how much you appreciate them.

Rosa Gomez has continued her kindness and Christian spirit while helping one of our new little ones who is bilingual enjoy her new friends at Saint Jerome School. Please know that your teachers are always sharing with me and I am aware of all the good that is happening in our school. Thank you for the effort you put into being good kids and thank you for all the ways you find to Live the Mission!