



# Love Bug Spotlights

Mrs. Flynn and Mrs. Perry's Kindergarten Newsletter

September 28, 2009

Dear Parents,

We had two very successful days last week! Our Grandparents Day was wonderful. Compliments to those grandparents who behaved themselves and worked so hard! The kids also deserve praise because of their singing, guidance and use of good manners on that day. And our field trip to Printex went very well. Thanks to all the chaperones for doing a marvelous job assisting the children. Didn't the shirts turn out well? It is nice to look at the kindergarten as a whole when these kids are in a "Yellow Haze"!

If you would like to order a shirt from Printex either for yourself or an additional one for your kindergartner, please return the form sent home last Thursday along with payment by this Thursday. We will place this order with Janet that day.

We have a "pig in the race" for the magazine drive! Our class reached the goal in sales for the pig and this week our pig will be competed against two other classes' pigs for a pizza party. Cheer on our little green porker for us.

October arrives this week. With each new month comes a new seating arrangement for your child. You may want to ask your child who his/her neighbors are for the month.

October also brings the Winter uniform code for the students at St. Gabriel. Starting Thursday, there will be no more shorts/skorts until springtime. Please check the handbook for details. Also check the handbook for the dress code to be followed if your child has a uniform pass for Box Tops or Skating Party attendance.

A new set of Book Orders are coming home today for the month of October. We would like to have these orders back by Thursday. Perhaps the books will get back to us by Conference Day on the 8<sup>th</sup>.

A conference sign-up sheet is in your child's folder today. There is also an alternate sheet if you would like to conference earlier. Please complete these and return by Wednesday. Thursday morning will be our school wide conference scheduling time. Please look for a small slip of paper coming home Thursday that will have your child's designated conference time on it.

Since we have so many oldest/only students in our class who have never been through the conferencing process, we would like to go ahead and give you details about next week.

\*Conferences are scheduled in 15 minute blocks. On conference day we have to stick to those times so we do not make other students, parents and teachers get off schedule. This means that we will have about 10 minutes of “talk time” once we get settled. If you feel that you want or need more time, let us know and we will schedule an additional conference time at a later date.

\*Please look at your child’s grades and read the comments posted on PowerSchool. Also, please look through assessments that your child will be bringing home this week. There will be lots of these! Doing these things will make you more prepared for the conference.

\*Your child is expected to sit with us and be an active participant in the conference.

\*Please do not bring younger siblings to the conference. This is a time for your kindergartner to be in the spotlight.

\*Should you have older children in upper grade levels with you, they may sit outside during the conference. We will try to have some activities on the table to entertain these kids while they wait.

\*During the conference, we will look at the report card, work samples, and discuss how your child is adapting to our program. We will be glad to try to answer any questions or address any concerns you may have.

All of the children are making progress this year. Although there is a lot of work involved in getting ready for report cards and conferences, it is always satisfying for the teachers. It makes us stop, look back at each child and realize how far they have already come this year. Thank you for your support and work at home. These great students make it evident that at St. Gabriel we have loving, nurturing parents!

Here are some of the things we will be assessing this week. The list looks TERRIBLY LONG but most of these items are things we do or cover daily. If your child has been listening and participating in class he/she should do fine on our assessments.

Counting to 25

Saying ABCs

Reciting the days of the week

Recognizing number 0-10

Counting items in sets up to 10

Recognizing letters Aa-Ll

Writing letters from A-L and a-l

Writing first name correctly (top to bottom letters, capitals only at the beginning, and can identify letters in name as he/she writes it.)

Reciting Snack Prayer

A Catholic Reader sign-up sheet is coming home today. Please consider having your child participate in this program since it is one of the few things your child as a Kindergartner can be recognized for at the end of the year. Each child who completes the Catholic Reader Program will get a certificate in the spring.

Everyone has been very generous sending in snacks. Some days we just can't eat all that you send. For the beginning of October, we will try to use up these leftovers. Today, a snack menu is coming home only with the children celebrating October birthdays. When we run low on our leftovers, we will send a new snack schedule to everyone.

As you have guessed, we will be doing many assessments this week in preparation for conferences/report cards. Please encourage your child to be on his/her best behavior and to participate in class. Tomorrow we will be going to the all school mass for the Feast of St. Gabriel. Please feel free to join us for these masses that begin at 8:15. You are welcome to sit with our class if you would like.

Homework and things to remember this week are:

Tuesday – Angel Connect the dot sheet

Wednesday – Bring back the conference sign-up sheet

Thursday – Handwriting homework sheet

Printex orders due back

Book orders due back

(Look for the sheet with the conference time coming home Thursday)

Friday – Research and write a fact about Johnny Appleseed on the sheet coming home. These will be shared as we prepare for a play by the Blue Apple Players that is scheduled for Tuesday, October 6<sup>th</sup>.

We hope you have a wonderful week in this cooler fall weather! The changing of seasons brings excitement to our part of the country!

Sincerely,

Mary and Holly

*P.S. Take a look at our class. We pull a lot of "weight" with our new shirts from Printex!*

