



Friday Folder Notes, January 19, 2018

Look for these Friday Notes on the school web site and in your email as well. -- www.aquinas-catholic.com

The Joy of Helping

From the kickoff of the new virtue of Prudence last week through this week, we have had some great opportunities to help each other out. The 5th grade boys got to practice including others and realizing how good it felt to bring someone along into the group and also how good it felt to be included. They have been sharing that this week with the 4th graders as we practice some "Morning Warm-ups." The students take the first person who arrives with them as their "buddy" and they work with them in the gym to shoot hoops or work on dribbling. We have a couple simple rules:

1. Smile at whoever you are partnered with.
2. Just for fun—not competitive.
3. Encourage each other.

Not only are they "warmed up" for the school day (They definitely seem more awake by the end!), they are "warming up" to including each other and they are having fun doing it. We will be including other grade levels in the weeks to come, so everyone will get a chance. Third grade is up next week. **Thank you to the fifth graders** for their inspiration in this activity! I think it will be good for all of us.

Have a great weekend and week to come!

God Bless!

— Mrs. Zook

CURRICULUM CORNER...

The AR Program and Reading

We have found the AR (**Renaissance Place's Accelerated Reader**) program to be a great support to our reading curriculum. Students in grades 1-5 choose books to read, then take comprehension tests on them to earn points in the classroom. Choosing books they are interested in helps to get students reading **more**. Keep in mind that they may find many of the classics like **Little House on the Prairie** (level: 4.9, 8 points) and **Charlotte's Web** (level: 4.4, 5 points) very interesting once they are introduced to them. They make the greatest gains in proficiency by reading books in their ability range. **If your child doesn't know their level, just ask their teacher for it, they test them periodically to keep moving them up in difficulty.** Then, check your books at home using the site: arbookfind.com. You can just **jot the level and the Quiz # in the front cover** to save time for the student when they go to take the test at school. They also use books from the classroom and library. **Have fun reading! Next week, we'll share some tips for early readers as you help them at home.**

Upcoming Events:

Final Parent Information Meeting

Jan. 23, 7 PM at St. Mary's Gym

Jan. 20: St. Mary's Garage Sale-gym

Jan. 23, 5-8 PM: BBQ Night. Eat at BBQ, Burgers, and More and they donate to St. Mary's!!

Jan. 25: Bank of the Valley Day

Jan. 26: Baptism Mass/Spirit Day. Students can wear St. Mary's/ Aquinas or religious shirt and jeans or athletic pants, no leggings alone.

Jan. 28-Feb. 3: Catholic Schools Week – Lots of great activities including the **Traveling Choir performing at the Sunday Mass at 10 AM (arrive 9:30 AM) on Jan. 28.**

Please consider attending if your student is interested. We have had a wide range of grades and students and it has been beautiful!

Does your child have their miraculous medal from the Bishop?

They are asked to wear them for a special Rosary Crusade presentation on **Feb. 13.** You may send it to school if you choose so they will have it for that day. (Fr. Kelleher presenting)

Virtue for January

Prudence: Making good decisions in specific circumstances
They have their Home Project blue sheet, also attached to this email—Due Feb. 2

Prayers ...

...for new baby Brooks, son to Nick and Sarah

Romshek and siblings Brecken (PK) and Reese.

...for the March for Life to change hearts to protect life, safe travels

...for the family in Shelby for the loss of their daughter



Thank youto the

Traveling Choir participants who helped with our double weekend! We had a great turnout and they sounded amazing at both!! (Thank you, Aquinas grad **Claire Oborny**, for leading!)

Safety and Tech Notes:

A fun app for introducing computer programming/ coding: **Lego Fix the Factory** available in both Android and Apple platforms. Gets **even little kids** thinking about what happens next. Starts off easy, but is challenging enough for K-5. (Also a nice overlap with Prudence virtue for this month—what happens next with my actions in real life? 😊)

St. Mary's Spirit Club

Cortney Hein, Spiritual Director

Friendly Defenders Catholic Flashcard-- Topic: Confession and the Power to Forgive Sins

Curious Connie asks: **Why tell your sins to a priest? A man can't forgive sins.**

Charitable Charles replies: **Jesus gave priests the power to forgive sins. "He breathed on them, and said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit. Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them, and whose sins you retain are retained.'" (John 20: 22-23) Priests forgive sins only through the power of the Holy Spirit.**

Other References: 2 Cor. 5:18, Jas. 5:16, Matt. 18:18

January					July				
Baptism Celebrants					Baptism Celebrants				
Bella	Comte	5	B	7-Jan	Ally	Prochaska	5	A	1-Jul
Maxwell	Scott	5	B	14-Jan	Trenton	Mefford	5	A	2-Jul
Bradán	Junck	5	B	27-Jan	Sydney	Hartman	5	B	8-Jul
Jacksen	Jelinek	5	B	28-Jan	Kasen	Lavicky	5	B	8-Jul
Marissa	Miratsky	4	B	6-Jan	Isaiah	Coufal	5	A	30-Jul
Lydia	Meysenburg	4	B	20-Jan	Lauren	Meister	4	A	19-Jul
Dayne	Jakub	3	A	4-Jan	Evan	Hoelscher	4	B	22-Jul
Mason	Krivanek	3	A	11-Jan	Becca	Podolak	4	B	22-Jul
Kalen	Stouffer	3	A	11-Jan	Aiden	Rerucha	3	B	12-Jul
Emilyn	Kavan	3	B	25-Jan	Robert	Dalton	2	A	5-Jul
Kaden	Kobza	2	A	3-Jan	Bailee	Hough	1	A	16-Jul
Jacqueline	Comte	2	A	31-Jan	Dylan	Masilko	K	B	1-Jul
Damian	Miratsky	2	A	31-Jan	Caden	Vandenberg	K	B	2-Jul
Dirkson	Kavan	1	A	16-Jan	Kendra	Havlovic	K	B	10-Jul
Samuel	Yindrick	K	A	1-Jan	Leah	Emswiler	K	A	15-Jul
Gavin	Thege	K	B	29-Jan	Eastyn	Kavan	K	B	28-Jul
					Wyatt	Svoboda	K	B	31-Jul

Some Photos From this Week:

Traveling Choir, Jan. 13 in Shelby-Sacred Heart Parish



Jan. 14, St. Francis-Center Parish



Lots of COOL learning around school

Kindergarten Arctic/Antarctic drawings



2nd graders take a break from making torn paper penguins to get in the picture.



Preschool and Pre-K Snowmen guard the hallway...look up 😊
and 5th grade snowmen shadows and sock penguins.

