



Dear Father Andrew White Families,

We've had another wonderful week at Father Andrew White School! The PK students joined us this week! The Safety Patrol students welcomed the PK children and walked them to their classrooms and through dismissal so that the children felt safe and welcome. The PK students have learned so much! They know how to make the sign of the cross, pledge to the flag, walk in a line, eat lunch in the cafeteria and of course play during center time and at recess! They created beautiful self portraits!! The PK students even visited the church with Fr. David and met their buddies from the 5th grade classroom! We are so happy to have them here!

The students learned about hope in Morning Prayer this week. Mr. George explained that the true meaning of hope is not wishing for something but trusting God in all circumstances. We hope in God's goodness and His love for us, knowing that all things in our lives will work together for good for those that love the Lord! (Romans 8:28). He has called us each to a purpose and will ensure that we receive the needed experiences to fulfill that purpose. Help your child to realize that God has a perfect plan for them and to pray to God, in hope, that He will direct them accordingly. Share the richness of the Mass with your child by going to church on Sunday this weekend, so they can build that relationship with God and other believers!

There was a lot of writing happening at Father Andrew White School this week! Middle School Students created VIP booklets and practiced using correct punctuation, capitalization and other grammatical rules. Third graders wrote about Pope Francis and included facts and questions about what they would like to ask the Holy Father! Students interviewed each other during the

Buddy Activities and it was fun to hear their conversations turn from “What’s your favorite color?” to finding common likes and dislikes. Middle School Team Building activities also focused on finding a “Common Thread” as students paired in groups of four and were surprised to find that they had similar interests such as basketball, a love for Math, the beach, eating crabs and the USA!! They then created flags to represent their group’s common interests.

Kindergarteners incorporated Math into their writing activity by first sampling apples (red, green and yellow), then graphing their favorites and finally writing about their favorite apples! First graders created rainbow projects which focused on their favorite food, their family, pets and favorite colors! Students even used vocabulary to describe art! They then decorated their words and displayed them along the hallways. Students learned new vocabulary in their Spanish class and when I asked some sixth graders what their favorite class was, they said Spanish because they created a trifold correctly and the directions were all in Spanish! They were so proud that they were able to accomplish a task using a new language!

Second graders went on a scavenger hunt to find rocks, plants and mushrooms outside. Fourth graders and Kindergarten students held a birthday party for Mary on September 8, celebrating the Nativity of our Blessed Mother!

Next week our students will take their first standardized test using the new MAP test which was adopted this year. Please find attached a letter from Kelly Branaman, Superintendent of our Catholic Schools, regarding this new assessment tool. These tests will provide valuable information to guide your child’s instruction. Please ensure that your child gets a good night’s sleep and eats a good breakfast on the day of the test. We will test on Tuesday and Wednesday of next week and then complete testing the following week.

Finally, we would like to celebrate some exciting news from former Father Andrew White students! Ava Chadwick, a graduate from 2022, was nominated as a Broadcom Masters top 300 youth scientist in the nation for her Science Fair project on “*Hitting Harder: Composite vs. Aluminum.*” Congratulations to Ava!

Fr. Alex Wyvill, a graduate from 2008 (who had Mrs. Sarlo as his Science teacher and Mrs. Rowland for Math) was ordained a priest this past June and celebrated Mass with our students! He then took time to speak with the Middle School students and answer any questions they had about what it is like to be a priest, what his favorite video games are, how many languages does he know (seven), and did he ever have questions about his faith. Father reminded us that everyone has questions at times but to continue our relationship with the church, fellow believers and Jesus who is the way, the truth and the life. He loves us so much and will always be there for us. It was wonderful for the students to interact with Fr. Wyvill. Please keep him in your prayers as he travels to Rome to complete his studies. Have a blessed and restful weekend.

Sincerely,

***Janet Szoch***, Principal