

"Blest are you among women, and blest is the fruit of your womb...Blest is she who trusted that the Lord's words to her would be fulfilled" Luke 1:42, 45

Dear Father Andrew White Families,

As we celebrate the month of May, we begin each day by praying a decade of the rosary. The rosary is not just a prayer of Scripture, but a meditation on the mysteries of Jesus' life. This week we focused on the joyful mysteries of Jesus' life. Mrs. Downey had the third grade students re-enact the Annunciation (Luke 1:26-38), the Visitation (Luke 1:39-56) and the BIrth of Jesus (Luke 2:1-20). *They practiced leadership skills* when leading the school in the prayers of the rosary, the pledge, the birthday blessing and even our FAW motto!

Several baby chicks hatched in Mrs. Armsworthy's class! The students are studying the life cycle of a chick, and now they have real life experience with the process! First graders in Mrs. Guerre's class also hatched chicks this year! Many students from all over the building enjoyed checking in to see how these baby chicks were doing! What a wonderful learning experience!

Mrs. Valeski and her second grade students hosted "Camp Read a Lot!" Mrs. Raley and Mrs. Valeski transformed the classroom into an outdoor environment! They had tents, a pretend campfire, birds with binoculars and pencils that looked like sticks that they used to write sentences with! The second graders were the camp counselors that hosted every grade level! They practiced leadership and hospitality skills! Their favorite part of the day was that they were the leaders for their older buddies!

Mrs. Young's Language Arts classes practiced giving persuasive speeches! They used this opportunity to convince others of their position on a topic; a practice of leadership skills as well!

Thursday was such a fun filled day with three separate activities for our students! PK students had a fun water day, thanks to Ms. Mesmer and Mrs. Greene's creative efforts and all of the parent volunteers. Our eighth grade students enjoyed a day at an Adventure Park! Thank you to Mrs. Sarlo who organized the entire trip and the many parent volunteers who assisted! The rest of the students attended a day at the ballpark! They had a beautiful day and a great time with their classmates and teachers! Thank you to Mrs. Armsworthy for coordinating all of the logistics for this trip! The seventh graders enjoyed an additional trip by attending the ELMS outdoor trip. Thank you to Mr. George for leading them in this adventure!

The third, fourth and fifth graders enjoyed surprising Mrs. Sears on her birthday with singing and a special cookie treat! Mrs. Sears was very moved and appreciated their wonderful sentiments!

I can inform you that we have chosen the uniform for next year. After receiving input from the uniform committee and having a staff vote, we will now utilize *Lands End* for our uniforms. The plaid will continue to be the French blue plaid, but shirts will be changed to a light blue color and we will have quarter zip sweatshirts rather than uniform vests. PK will now wear a light yellow shirt. The company has one more adjustment to make before they can publish the online store from which to purchase items. We are excited to see the new options. Please remember that next year is a transition year for uniforms. Our current uniform options or our newer options will be acceptable wear.

Our Destination Imagination students are off to their Global Competition! We wish them well and are excited that they have such a wonderful opportunity! Thank you to Mrs. Cacko, Mrs. Greer and all of the other many volunteers for leading the students in this great learning experience. The Relay Races are happening at St. Mary's Ryken on Saturday! Come cheer for the students! Thank you, Mrs. Burfield for all of your work in organizing this event! We are thankful for the many leaders in our school and community! Our students greatly benefit from your wonderful example!!

Please enjoy your weekend! I hope that you can attend Mass at St. Aloysius to see our 2nd grade students receive their First Holy Communion. Please keep them in your prayers!

God Bless you!

Mrs. Szoch