

# SCCS Fourth Grade News

*November 3, 2011*

Dear Parents,

We enjoyed meeting with all of you during Parent-Teacher conferences last Thursday. Thank you to those of you who were able to volunteer for Rake-A-Difference. We all had fun while serving those in our community who needed fall raking help.

It's that time of year! Please remind your child to have outerwear suitable for recess and the bus stop.

We begin class promptly at 8:55 a.m. Students need to arrive on time so they have sufficient time to prepare for their classes. Students will be marked tardy if they are not in their seats when the bell rings.

Parents, please do not email us about changes to the end of the day routine or messages to be passed on to your child. As much as we would like to, we do not always get to our email until after students leave for the day. Sister Mary Juliana prefers that teachers wait until their prep time to check their email, so that we can give students our full and undivided attention. Please call the office and ask them to relay your message.

Let's take a look at some important dates and reminders.

∞ Marathon Reward: Tomorrow - Mini Carnival for Intermediate Grades

!! Thursday & Friday, November 10<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup>: No AM/PM Buses – Parents Drive

∞ St. Michael's Merry Mall, Saturday, November 12<sup>th</sup>

∞ Diorama Reading Project due Monday, November 14<sup>th</sup>

∞ Operation Christmas Child boxes due no later than Wednesday, November 16<sup>th</sup>

∞ Ask your child about the MN Timberwolves' Read to Achieve Program which takes place between November 1 and January 6.

Here's an overview of our classes.

**Math (Rustin):** We finished the checkpoint this week and are writing, matching and evaluating number expressions for phrases. The Chapter 2 Test will be toward the end of next week. Please watch the planner for an exact date.

**(Lehman):** The Chapter 2 Test on adding and subtracting whole numbers will be Thursday, November 10th. Students should keep working on their Accelerated Math. The next due date is Tuesday, November 22<sup>nd</sup>. Chapter 3 covers multiplication and division concepts and facts.

**(Thomas):** Chapter 5 of our text covers Data, Graphs and Probability. We will do some fun activities with this over the next couple of weeks. Again, we will move swiftly through the chapter with the goal of being in Chapter 6 by Thanksgiving. Neatness and careful attention to detail in work will continue to be encouraged and expected. Students should continue with their Accelerated Math packets which are due by November 18th.

**Religion:** Students will make rosary booklets and learn about this special devotion during the next couple of weeks. We would like each student to bring in his/her own rosary as soon as possible. We do have extras for students to borrow if needed.

**Reading: (Lehman & Rustin):** Students will present their book diorama and paragraph explaining their chosen scene beginning Monday, November 14<sup>th</sup>. This past week we read "Justin and the Best Biscuits," and learned about making predictions. Next week we will read Chris Van Allsburg's "Just a Dream," and learn about applying sequencing to our reading.

**Language Arts:** We have begun our study of specific parts of speech by learning to identify nouns, both common and proper, as well as their correct usage within a sentence. Students recently wrote and shared a Halloween story or narrative after listening to "Miss Fiona's Stupendous Pumpkin Pies." Our next writing assignment will again focus on complete sentences and punctuation, as well as the narrative style of writing.

**Social Studies:** Please watch your child's planner for the date of the Chapter 2 Test on Regions as we are about to start the third and last lesson in Chapter 2. Chapter 3 explores the Eastern region, its land, climate, resources, economy and people. Parents can access the online textbook at <<http://www.eduplace.com/eservices/>>. The username is **sccs4ss** and the password is **fourth**.

**Science:** Students completed a windsock experiment and documented their observations on wind speed. We are currently learning about Air and Weather, How the Sun Affects Weather, and What Makes an Air Mass. The Weather Unit Test will be next Thursday, November 10<sup>th</sup>. Did you know the blurry ripples seen above a paved road on a hot day are caused by light traveling differently through the hot air?

**Spanish:** Overall, the students performed well on their weather quizzes. The students will begin the two-minute timings soon. Be sure to practice the vocabulary flashcards daily. Don't forget about the alphabet, too!



God bless you and your families,

Ms. Lehman & Mrs. Rustin