

SCCS 5<sup>th</sup> Grade News  
April 1, 2010

Dear Parents,

Thank you to all of you who were able to join us for our annual Silhouette Stations of the Cross. We hope you enjoyed our re-enactment of Christ's Passion. Our 5<sup>th</sup> graders did a wonderful job! Here is our news with some reminders:

- † DARE Graduation is set for Tuesday, May 25<sup>th</sup> in St. Mary's Social Hall. Invitations will be sent out closer to the date. You are welcome to join us.
- † Scholastic Book Orders are being sent home today with this newsletter. If you decide to order, please send **checks only**, payable to Scholastic Book Clubs, no later than Wednesday, April 14<sup>th</sup>.
- † The Science Experiment project is due Wednesday, April 21<sup>st</sup>.
- † READO – Encourage reading over Easter break. We'd love to see more book reports come in!
- † Each classroom is putting together a Style Show Basket for our Saturday, April 17<sup>th</sup> Style Show and Luncheon. Please send in your donation no later than Monday, April 12<sup>th</sup>.

May you and your families enjoy Easter and all that His Resurrection brings us. Easter blessings, Mrs. Thomas, Mrs. Rustin and Mrs. Lehman

**Religion:** It's all about Easter! We celebrated the Passover Seder meal/ Last Supper in our classes today. Following the Easter Break we will continue to explore the rest of the Sacraments.

**Language: Storybook money was due today (\$2.50 check payable to SCCS).** Each student will write and illustrate a children's storybook in Language class later in the trimester. We will reinforce the writing process throughout this activity. It is a fun project that emphasizes the creativity in every child. They are very excited! We are currently working on a 5-paragraph essay about the Sioux Nation.

**Science:** The Scientific Method and all of its processes are being explored. These skills will be used to complete the **Experiment Project due April 21**. An Ag Mag assignment has been given which should be completed over Easter break. In it we learn more about Minnesota agriculture and its role in a healthy lifestyle.

**Reading:** All reading classes will be reading a class novel following Easter break. Mrs. Thomas' class will be reading The Watsons Go to Birmingham, 1963. Mrs. Lehman's class is reading Danger in Quicksand Swamp. Mrs. Rustin's class will be reading Where the Red Fern Grows. Students will read the novel together as well as independently, participate in class discussions and several activities related to their book. Vocabulary and skills that we have worked on throughout the regular curriculum will be reinforced in our reading of these books. Mrs. Doeksen's class is starting Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry. Weekly writing assignments for this last part of the year will be story writing. Some students are writing a chapter each week for an ongoing story and some students are writing separate stories each week.

**Math (Rustin) (Lehman):** Chapter 7, Fraction Concepts, focuses on understanding fractions and mixed numbers, as well as relating them to decimals. Skills include estimating fractions amounts, finding equivalent fractions and comparing fractions.

**Math (Thomas):** A quick review of the basic operations of addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division of fractions will be followed by some work with geometry.

**Math (Bates):** Students will begin Chapter 9 after Easter. Students will examine the relationships among fractions, decimals, and percents as they write fractions and decimals as percents. They will use these skills to draw circle graphs. Students will also apply their knowledge of percents to solving percent problems like discounts, markups, sales tax, tips and simple interest.

**Social Studies:** The Mini Projects have been completed! What variety! We learned about each model and how it was made. Models will be displayed in the hallway. We will complete L4.4 on the Iroquois after Easter break. Students will take the **Chapter 4 Test on Friday, April 16th.** Chapter 5 will have us traveling throughout the ancient world to places like Timbuktu and the Great Wall of China.

**Spanish:** Students were assessed on the fifth section of house vocabulary on 3/30. After Easter, the students will focus on a unit about various activities we do.