

# S. PHILIP SCHOOL

October 7, 2011

Dear Parents,

We are well into our first trimester and the students (and staff) have adjusted to being back in school. Our after school enrichment program is off to a great start. Middle school cross country teams have been practicing hard and participating in cross-country meets. Basketball teams will begin practices soon. Robotics began its sessions with new students last week and chorus rehearsals began yesterday. The weather has cooled, the mornings have a 'crisp' feel to them, and the leaves on some of the trees have already begun to change color. Welcome to October and the season of autumn here at St. Philip School!

Today is the First Friday of the month, a time to come together as a school community and celebrate the holy and loving sacrifice of the Mass, as we do most months during the school year. Why is this day of each month so important that we refer to it in our letters and calendars as First Friday, using capital letters? Why do we choose this day to have our monthly Masses? The *First Friday Devotion* to the Sacred Heart of Jesus dates to the last decades of the 17<sup>th</sup> century, and is based on promises made by Our Lord Jesus Christ during an apparition to St. Margaret Mary, who was canonized by the Church in 1920. The 12<sup>th</sup> of these promises reads:

***I promise you in the excessive Mercy of My Heart that My all-powerful Love will grant to all those who receive Holy Communion on the First Friday for nine consecutive months the grace of final repentance; they shall not die in My disgrace nor without receiving the sacraments; My Divine Heart shall be their safe refuge in that last moment.***

First Friday devotions began to grow in popularity after St. Margaret Mary had died, but were officially recognized about 75 years later. Though the devotion dictated to the saint referred to nine consecutive first Fridays, many Catholics continue to make the First Friday devotion beyond the nine consecutive months. A listing of the twelve promises given by Jesus to St. Margaret Mary for souls devoted to His Most Sacred Heart may be found elsewhere in this letter.

In order to keep you well informed, **interim progress reports** for students in grades 1-8 are scheduled to go home on **Thursday, October 13<sup>th</sup>**. **Middle school parent-teacher conferences** will be held on Thursday, October 20<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday, October 26<sup>th</sup> from 3:00-5:00 p.m. and 6:00-8:00 p.m. Parent conferences for students in Kindergarten through Grade 5 are planned for next month, on Thursday, November 10. Teachers of those grades will be sending home information regarding conference times at a later date.

*Parents, please be reminded that school policy requires a signed note any time you plan to pick your child up early from school for any reason. (This also applies to late arrivals and to dismissal arrangements that vary from your child's usual routine.) More and more parents have been arriving at school unexpectedly, causing disruptions to the classrooms when the office has to call for a child who is unprepared to leave. It is not enough to inform your child at the beginning of the day that he or she will be leaving early; please be sure to send a note to the teacher as well.*

Extended care bills are being sent home via e-mail to all families for whom we have an e-mail address. Please be sure to check your e-mail frequently for billing information and for news items from the school. Because mass e-mails will sometimes end up in an e-mail junk/spam folder, it might be wise to also check those folders from time to time as well.

**ST. PHILIP SCHOOL FLU  
VACCINE CLINIC  
Friday, October 14  
4:00 – 7:00 p.m.**

Families please report at assigned times if last name begins with:

**A-F: 4:00 – 5:00 p.m.  
G-N: 5:00 – 6:00 p.m.  
O-Z: 6:00 – 7:00 p.m.**

If you have not yet registered, there is still time to do so at [www.thewellcomp.com/school](http://www.thewellcomp.com/school) and a completed consent form will be ready for you upon your arrival at the clinic. You may also choose to fill out a consent form at the clinic. The personnel administering the vaccine ask that you be sure to wear loose clothing to make it easier to receive the vaccine, and bring your insurance card with you if you have one.

***Our Safe Environment Training Program will be held again twice during the flu clinic; at 5:00 and 6:00 p.m. If you are still in need of training or renewal of training in order to volunteer, please be certain to attend one of these two sessions.***

Classroom news may be accessed by logging on to **NewSchoolnotes** at <http://new.schoolnotes.com/students/main> and search by teacher name or by school. Please note that St. Philip School is listed under District > Diocese of Providence; it is *NOT* listed under Smithfield. Once you have visited the site, you may sign up to receive an e-mail every time your child's teacher updates his/her page.

October is the month dedicated to Our Blessed Mother under her title, Queen of the Holy Rosary. Please refer to the item elsewhere in this newsletter which discusses our Pilgrim Virgin Program for Youth, if you wish to enjoy the benefit of additional blessings for your family.

**Standardized testing** for students in Grades 3-8 **begins the week of October 12<sup>th</sup> and concludes on October 21<sup>st</sup>**. Please be sure your child gets adequate sleep and eats nutritious breakfasts during testing time.

Don't forget to visit us at [www.stphilipschool.com](http://www.stphilipschool.com) to keep updated on school newsletters, calendars, and happenings! St. Philip School is also linked to both the parish and Diocesan Catholic School websites. *Please note that we try very hard to make certain that we do not post pictures of students whose parents have not given permission for us to do so. If you find that your child's picture has 'filtered through' our screening process, please don't hesitate to let us know and we will remove it immediately.*

**In order to prevent injuries, parents are asked to instruct their children that they are not allowed to be on the cement ramp nor climb on the hand railing attached to the McNamara/convent building. Additionally, parents are asked to closely supervise their youngsters during dismissal time. Children are not permitted to climb trees on parish and school property. These policies are reviewed in our handbook; we ask you to read the handbook thoroughly and carefully and instruct your children in proper school protocol. We thank you for your cooperation in maintaining a safe environment for our children.**

Please review this newsletter carefully so as not to miss items that may be of special importance to you and your children. Thank you for giving us the opportunity to share in the educational and spiritual development of your children. Know that you are all in our daily school prayers. It is with grateful hearts that we thank everyone in the St. Philip parish and school community for your prayerful support, financial support, encouragement and willingness to give of your time and talents. We pray that God will bless you most abundantly. Please keep us in your daily prayers as well!

Sincerely,

Darlene A. Walsh, Principal  
Patt A. McCormick, Asst. Principal

**ASBESTOS UPDATE**

In accordance with St. Philip School's AHERA Management Plan, this notification is provided to inform all building occupants of the existence and availability of our asbestos management plan. The plan is available upon request for inspection by interested parties at the school administration office. The asbestos program manager for St. Philip School is Mr. Denis Rainville.

**CHILD OUTREACH NEWS**

The Smithfield School Department will be offering FREE screening in vision, hearing, speech, and development for all Pre-Kindergarten children between 3 and 5 years of age. Parents are encouraged to have their children screened annually before entering Kindergarten. If you have a concern about your child please contact Colleen Poyton at 231-6608.



The Northwest Region's Child Outreach program (for families living in Burrillville, Foster, Gloucester, North Smithfield and Scituate) will also hold its annual screenings for children between the ages of 3 and 5 years of age during the months of October and November. Appointments may be made by calling Maureen Ciotola at 647-7560.

**MILITARY ROLL OF HONOR**



Our *Military Roll of Honor* is continually being updated. In addition to posting (in the main school foyer) the names of those serving our country, we mention them in every morning's prayers and ask God to keep them in His loving care. If you have a family member or friend who is currently serving in the military, please let us know so that we may update our bulletin board. Please tell us the soldier's name, his or her rank and branch of the military, and where he/she is serving. If you have a picture of your soldier that we can include on our bulletin board, we would be most happy to do so! If you have given us a soldier's name in the past and that soldier is not currently serving on active duty, please also let us know that. A form to make it easier to give us this information is attached.

## SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR!

The theme for the Fall Book Fair is "Reading Is Out Of This World". It will be held the second week of November. Parents who are interested in volunteering for the book fair should send a note to school addressed to Mrs. Audet and she will get in touch with you. The book fair schedule is:

November 8: Book Fair set-up 9:00-11:00 a.m. and preview for teachers  
Book Fair open after school 2:30-4:00 p.m.

November 9: Purchasing day for students ~ 8:45 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. & open after school 2:30 - 4:00 p.m. and  
6:30-8:00 p.m.

November 10: Purchasing day for students ~ 8:45 a.m. - 12:00 noon; break-down 12:30-2:00 p.m.



### A+ BONUS BUCKS PROGRAM BEGINS AGAIN! St. Philip School ID Number: 05788

Once again, St. Philip School has the opportunity to earn cash through Stop & Shop's A+ Bonus Bucks program. All you have to do is log onto [www.stopandshop.com/aplus](http://www.stopandshop.com/aplus) to register your card online. You may also register over the phone by calling 1-877-275-2758. PLEASE NOTE THAT YOU MUST REGISTER YOUR CARD EACH YEAR – REGISTRATIONS ARE NOT 'CARRIED OVER' FROM YEAR TO YEAR. By registering your Stop & Shop card and designating St. Philip School as the beneficiary, each shopping trip you make to the store for groceries or incidentals earns CASH for our school! Encourage your friends and relatives to do the same and the benefits to our school are increased. Over the course of the year you can check the web site and find out how much money the school has earned.

The school will receive a check at the end of the program year! We hope that all of you who shop at Stop & Shop will register your card as a simple way of helping us again this year.

### REMINDER! REMINDER!

There is no school on **Monday, October 10<sup>th</sup>** due to the Columbus Day holiday or on **Tuesday, October 11<sup>th</sup>** due to a Teacher Professional Day.

### **FIRST BASKETBALL PRACTICES**

The first basketball practice for boys will be on Sunday, 10/9, from 6:00-8:00 p.m. (Yes, the holiday weekend!) Girls will have practice on Tuesday, 10/11, from 4:30-6:00 p.m. Both practices will take place in the parish center.

### UNIFORM ITEMS AVAILABLE!!

Remember the miracle of the loaves and fish? It seems that the Lord is also working miracles in our uniform closet, as items appear to be multiplying even with the door closed and locked! ☺ Because of this, uniforms will be available once again to all families on the night of our school flu clinic - Friday, October 14<sup>th</sup> - between the hours of 4:00 and 7:00 p.m. If you are in need of extra uniform items, please feel free to stop by and take what you might need. It is not necessary to donate in order to participate, but of course donations are gratefully accepted at any time.

### CONGRATULATIONS TO...

... St. Philip students who took part in the recent Smithfield Lions Annual Youth Run! This local fundraising event was held at Smithfield High School and St. Philip School was well represented. Races were broken down by gender and age that day. In the girl's ¼ mile race for ages 9-10, the first place victor was Meghan Maratea of Grade 5. First place winner in the boys division for that same race was fifth grader Christopher Riccitelli. Gavin Maratea of Grade 2 participated in the 100-yard dash for boys aged 7-8 and ran a fine race! Congratulations to all who took part!



At left: Winners  
Meghan Maratea and  
Christopher Riccitelli

At right: St. Philip  
participants Gavin  
Maratea, Chris  
Riccitelli, Ben  
Raymond and Meghan  
Maratea



Dear Parents,



We are happy once again this year to present our 'Pilgrim Virgin Program for Youth'. Some of you might already be familiar with the 'Pilgrim Virgin Program for Adults'. This program for youth consists of a Pilgrim Virgin statue; videos about the message of Fatima, the scapular, and the rosary; and literature to help you learn more. The statue will travel from home to home throughout the school year. We highly encourage the daily rosary to be prayed in the family, with friends or even individually as Our Lady requested at Fatima. Other devotions and suggestions are included as well.

Students who receive permission from their parents to bring the statue of Our Lady of Fatima into their home should return the form below. The family receiving the statue will take everything needed directly from the office, and return the statue to the school on the date assigned. We do not permit children to take the statue on the bus, as the box is fairly large. Families host Our Lady in their homes for a period of one week.

We have seen that Our Lady brings an outpouring of grace upon the families, through the statue, when visiting homes. Pope Pius XII proclaimed, "In 1946 I crowned Our Lady of Fatima as Queen of the World and the following year, through the Pilgrim Virgin, she set forth as though to claim her dominion. The favors she performs along the way are such that we can hardly believe what we are seeing with our eyes."

Our prayers are united with all your family's intentions, and we ask Jesus and Mary to bless each of you in a very special way!

To Jesus through Mary,



Darlene Walsh  
Principal

✂-----

Our family would like to host the Pilgrim Virgin Statue. Please let us know which week we have been assigned. (You may indicate a date preference if you wish; we will try to accommodate where possible.)

NAME OF STUDENT \_\_\_\_\_

GRADE \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE OF PARENT \_\_\_\_\_



## YOUTH GROUP NEWS ~ GRADES PK-5 & FAMILIES

Many thanks to all families that made our first St. Philip's Family Retreat Day so special. We had over 75 moms, dads, children, and even some grandparents join us! It was a beautiful day and fun times and faith were shared by all. We look forward to doing it again next year.

The next Family Fun Day will be Sunday, October 9 at 1:00 p.m. in the Parish Center. We will begin with apple treats, pumpkin projects, and a discussion on bearing fruit and then head out for some local apple & pumpkin picking. Please bring one canned good (per person) to use for a free hayride. Please call or e-mail Keith and Lisa Kline to register at 349-0428 or [leeleejack@aol.com](mailto:leeleejack@aol.com).

Our first 'KINGS KIDS CAMP' will be held on Saturday morning, October 15 from 9:00-11:00 a.m. in the Math Room at the school. This group is for children in Pre-K through Grade 2 and will include Bible stories, arts and crafts, a video, songs and snacks. Our theme this month is the *Friendship Frenzy* and they will learn about what it means to be a good friend and about the Holy Heroes called The Guardian Angels. Middle School and High School Students are encouraged to attend to help support our young children.

Our first 'KIDS 4 JESUS' day will be held on Saturday morning, October 22 from 9:00-11:00 a.m. in the Math Room at the school. This group is for children in Grades 3 to 5 and includes age appropriate activities where children will learn more about Jesus, the sacraments, our church, the saints, and so much more. This month's theme is the *Friendship Frenzy* and they will learn about what it means to be a good friend and about the Holy Heroes called The Guardian Angels. Middle School and High School Students are encouraged to attend to help support our young children and can earn volunteer hours for these events.

Please call Keith and Lisa Kline for more information (see above contact info).

## LIBRARY NEWS

Many of our students are reading books from The 2012 Rhode Island Children's Book Nominated List. Students in grades 3-6 will be voting for their favorite book sometime in February.

The library has many new books including World War II; Zany Miscellany: A Mixed-up Encyclopedia of Fun Facts; National Geographic Amazing!; The Slightly Odd United States Of America; Ghosts Of The Nile; Skippyjon Jones; Ladybug; Library Mouse: A Friend's Tale, If You Give A Moose A Muffin, Magic Tree House: Crazy Day With Cobras, Meg Mackintosh: The Mystery on Main Street; Trapped; and It's Raining Cupcakes. New middle school books include Bearwalker; Kokopelli's Flute; Confetti Girl; and Survivors: True Stories Of Children in the Holocaust.

Please be sure to read the third page of this newsletter for Scholastic Book Fair news!

### SCHOOL PICTURE UPDATE!

Students who forgot to turn in their picture orders at the time they were photographed may now bring them to the school office, or may drop them directly in the mailbox at Hutnak Photography Studios, 640 Putnam Pike (just a few doors down from the rectory)!

### CATALOGUE FUNDRAISER WINNERS!

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Matthew Sion (Pre-K)  
New Bike!

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Brenan Duquette (Pre-K)  
iPod Shuffle!

3<sup>rd</sup> Place – Ava Rataic (K)  
Boom Box!

Total Sales - \$10,000  
Total Profit - \$5,000

**THANK YOU SO MUCH!**

## FIRST FRIDAY DEVOTION PROMISES

Jesus gave the following promises to St. Margaret Mary for souls devoted to His Most Sacred Heart:



1. I will give them all the graces necessary in their state in life.
2. I will establish peace in their homes.
3. I will comfort them in their afflictions.
4. I will be their secure refuge in life and above all in death.
5. I will bestow abundant blessings on all their undertakings.
6. Sinners shall find in My heart the source and infinite ocean of mercy.
7. Tepid souls shall become fervent.
8. Fervent souls shall quickly mount to high perfection.
9. I will bless every place where a picture of My Heart shall be exposed and honored.
10. I will give to priests the gift of touching the most hardened hearts.
11. Those who shall promote this devotion shall have their names written in My Heart, never to be blotted out.
12. I promise you, in the excessive mercy of My Heart that My all-powerful love will grant to all those who receive Holy Communion on the first Friday for nine consecutive months the grace of final repentance; they shall not die in My disgrace nor without receiving the sacraments; My Divine Heart shall be their safe refuge in that last moment.

✠ Imprimatur – E. Morrogh Bernard  
Vicar General, Wesmonasterii, 1954

## PARISH & YOUTH GROUP NEWS FOR MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

### YOUR SUPPORT IS PRECIOUS TO OTHERS!

The St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry is always in need of non-perishable items for the individuals and families it serves. Because of the current economic conditions, many families with limited resources are turning to the parish for assistance.

Donations of food items from school families are always welcome – our food pantry basket is kept in the prayer atrium between the elementary and middle schools. Please note that this program is strictly voluntary and that no student or family is required to participate.

If you are able to add an extra food item to your weekly grocery shopping, it will be most appreciated. [This month's food request is peanut butter](#), although please be assured that other items are also helpful.

If you wish to volunteer your time, or you are in need of food assistance, the St. Vincent de Paul food pantry is open on Wednesdays and may be contacted by calling 949-2949, or by e-mail at [vinnysangels@saintphilip.com](mailto:vinnysangels@saintphilip.com). As always, thank you for your continued support!

FATHER JUNIPER IS PLANNING ANOTHER YOUTH GROUP ACTIVITY FOR MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS! ON FRIDAY, OCTOBER 21 AT 5:45 P.M., THERE WILL BE A "LITANY OF THE SAINTS" IN THE CHURCH, FOLLOWED BY A TRIP TO THE CORN MAZE AT FORT HILL FARMS IN THOMPSON, CT. STUDENTS WILL RETURN BACK TO THE PARISH CENTER BY 9:30 P.M. THE COST IS \$10 AND PERMISSION SLIPS ARE AVAILABLE IN THE SCHOOL OFFICE. ALL FORMS/PAYMENTS MUST BE RETURNED TO THE RECTORY OR SCHOOL NO LATER THAN WEDNESDAY, OCT. 19<sup>TH</sup>.

FATHER FRANK IS BUSY PLANNING HIS ANNUAL SKI TRIP FOR ST. PHILIP PARISH AND SCHOOL MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS AND FOR PARISH HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS AND THEIR GUESTS. THEY WILL BE TRAVELING TO THE ROUND HEARTH LODGE IN STOWE, VERMONT ON DECEMBER 26, 27 & 28, WITH SKIING AT THE STOWE MOUNTAIN RESORT. FLYERS DETAILING THE TRIP AND PAYMENT INFORMATION ARE ALSO AVAILABLE IN THE SCHOOL OFFICE.

## CLASSROOM NEWS

### FROM MRS. IAFRATE ~ AWESOME SCIENCE!

We are moving right along in Science. How excited the children are when they are using our new microscopes! They love looking at the "world of tiny things," as Greg stated in the book, [Greg's Microscope](#). We've looked at salt, sugar, pepper, leaves, hair, and plants, just to name a few. We also looked at veins, arteries, the heart, and the brain. The children learned how to make their own slides. This week we are looking at a green leaf and a yellow leaf under the microscope to see if there is a difference. The students collected leaves from the schoolyard and made a leaf print. We will laminate them and display them in their classrooms. After Columbus Day and testing, we will start using our new Science Kits in Grades 3, 4, 5. Grade Three will be studying water. Grade Four will study earth materials. Grade Five will study food and nutrition. The children are really excited about the kits. I know they will have a great time doing experiments and activities related to their subject matter!



### GRADE 1

September is a good month to have under our belt! The first graders know the routine of our days, and they are flowing by smoothly and quickly! We have begun the computer reading program, and we've already had one popsicle treat! We are nearing our second hundred, and my library of books has been making the rounds among the



class!

We have enjoyed having science with Mrs. Iafrate. Our little scientists enjoy writing and drawing in their science notebooks, and they have been fascinated looking through the microscope at the different slides Mrs. Iafrate has supplied.

Grade One is slowly learning sign language. They know the letters, numbers, and family members, as well as some animals. The leader of the day now asks the calendar questions in sign language. Wouldn't it be great if they could do all their talking in sign language? A teacher can dream!

The class had their first shopping trip at the Grade One store where they had a chance to spend their hard earned pennies and nickels through good behavior and taking reading tests on the computer. I think it's been a wonderful beginning, and we look forward to the rest of this year!

### KINDERGARTEN

September passed by so very quickly. We met our new classmates and our teachers and became familiar with the classroom procedures in kindergarten. We call it "KINDER"garten and this month we have learned all about our "Circle of Grace" and how we need to respect everyone's circle – then we will have a happy classroom and a happy home. God sends us the Holy Spirit to guide

us and watch over us, as well as our guardian angels. We have learned many prayers and special songs this month to remind us that Jesus is our best friend and that kindness and friendship are most important.



Our month included letter identification – we all know our letter names and the sounds of Nn and Aa. When you put letters together, you make words; words make sentences and sentences make stories and we read a lot of stories in kindergarten! In a few months, we will write our own little stories – that will be fun. We have learned songs about the main idea; previewing and predicting and now we know our color words too. Our special song about colors and rhyming was "Al and Etta" – we had fun singing it!!!

In Math we learned about sorting and shapes and now we are forming our numbers the right way. We will be learning our number words (to a song). Mrs. Ahern loves to sing and rhyme!!!!

Now that it is fall, we are talking about leaves, sunflowers, and next few weeks – pumpkins! We also have met Orb and Efie who lived in Bubbleland, learned the need for rules to keep everyone safe, and the word "authority".

This month we will focus on the letter sounds Mm, Dd, Ss and the vowel Ii. We will learn many new words and we will really begin to blend sounds together to make words. It is hard to do right now – but if we try our best, we can do it!!

Fire Prevention week is coming and we will visit sights on the computer to see Sparky. We have learned about Columbus and his trip across the ocean blue in 1492 (and you guessed it – we have a song)!!

Our best day was when we met our sixth grade buddies. They are awesome and helped us do an art project. We will celebrate Halloween with them and enjoy many other fun times.

Finally, next week, on Wednesday, we will begin to use our Neos-small computers to help us with our letters, sounds and numbers. Welcome back – school is cool and Kindergarten is awesome!!!!

## GRADE 5



Park Ranger John McNiff will visit Grade Five on Thursday, October 27 to speak about the colonists and forests of New England. Grade Five has entered the Creative Communications

Poetry Contest and Anthology of Poetry because we have been studying and writing various forms of poetry.

Father Frank is sharing his thoughts about the book, On My Honor, on Tuesdays for religion. Thank you, Father Frank!

## GRADE 3

It is so hard to believe that we are already in the month of October. Grade 3 was off to a great start of another school year. Students have been learning the schedule, routine, and classroom expectations. All students seem ready to learn and excited.

We have been very busy in all subjects. Children have been learning many concepts in reading including making predictions, drawing conclusions, author's point of view, steps in a process, cause and effect and comparing and contrasting. Children have used some of these skills in their writing. We wrote several different pieces relating to our studies about Jesus' Gifts of Love, Our Community, and Different Types of Communities. Students have been working hard learning all proofreading marks that will help them edit their work. I am impressed to see the students' progress in their writing.

We have also been very busy in Math. Students have learned about place value, comparing numbers, rounding



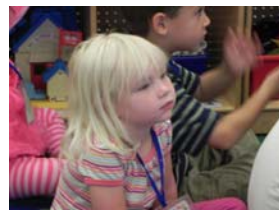
numbers, ordering numbers, and learning to add and subtract with money.

A new addition was also added to the third grade curriculum. All students in grade 3 will now participate in a formal vocabulary program. This program will help introduce students to a wide variety of words. I am excited for this addition and can't wait to begin. Wishing you all the best in the month of October.

## PRE-KINDERGARTEN

The start of our school year has been filled with lots of smiles, laughs and a few tears. The boys and girls have adjusted well to our classroom. They have been quite busy with the first two weeks focusing on classroom rules and school rules. The children are also making extra efforts to earn stickers by performing good deeds and making good choices. When their chart is filled with stickers, they are treated to either chips or ice cream!

During the last two weeks of September our theme was 'All About Me'. What a wonderful way to find out how incredible your children are! Whether they did a paper plate picture of themselves or created a puppet of a member of their family, it truly has been wonderful to learn about our Pre-Kindergarten class.



We officially opened our new playground! Kindergarten and Pre-Kindergarten students and teachers gathered with Fr. Frank for a special blessing and dedication. Many families spent quite a bit of time to make our playground a reality. We would like to thank them for their hard work, as the children are having a fabulous time in this special area, Joyful Noise Playground. We extend a special thank you to

the Belvin family for their large donation in memory of a favorite aunt, Miss Frances Martin, who was a loving educator.

During the month of October, our class will be celebrating autumn. We will be busy exploring and collecting all different symbols of fall. The boys and girls will learn about our season through hands-on and outdoor activities. During the last two weeks of October, our students will practice being farmers in the 'St. Philip Barn and Farmacyard'. During our farming theme, the children will certainly put on their farmer's gloves and get to work!

#### GRADE 4

Grade 4 got off to a wonderful, learning-filled start as we began our school year in late August! The students presented to the class their bag projects filled with 10 objects describing themselves. How wonderful it was to learn all about the many students in our class family. The children also did a great job creating and presenting their dioramas based on their summer reading of either Who Stole the Wizard of Oz or Frindle.



Our study of social studies began with the children's presentations of their "alpha-boxes" based on their readings of A Lion to Guard Us and their Jamestown magazine. They learned a great deal about Jamestown, which led us into our study of Rhode Island. The students now know that their state has 36 islands and where Greenville is located!

In reading, the students have read many nonfiction articles about Roger Williams and have taken notes on his life. This information has given them great insight into the history of our state and its "lively experiment" with religious freedom. They have finished their first writing piece, which was an acrostic poem on Roger Williams and topped it with their Roger Williams' face, which they designed at home. These were all so creative since no one knows for sure what Roger Williams really looked like!

In Religion we have learned about God's great love for us through his Son, Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit. We even learned "The Prayer to the Holy Spirit." All in all, the month has flown by as we grow in prayer and learning every day!

#### GRADE 2

Grade 2 has been having a great year so far. The children came in very happy and enthusiastic. We took our first couple of weeks to really settle in and get used to all the new routines. We love our fish stickers, star coins, our bell jar, our 4 mascots, and of course our goldfish.



We have been learning so many new and wonderful things. We are having a great time in science with Mrs. Iafrate learning all about microscopes and slides. We took a nature walk to collect leaves and we learned so many great things about them. In Religion, we made 3 big beautiful banners for Worship, Celebration, and Parish Community. We talked about our Circle of Grace and the Holy Family. We are beginning a study of the sacraments and of course we are preparing to receive two very special ones this year. We also are practicing safe internet rules and developing good, healthy eating habits. In math, we are stressing our math facts and learning about problem solving strategies.

Every day one of us leads the class in prayer. We have daily fish reporters and weather people. We love to hear the mascot adventures and Paddington's Journal. Now we are sharing activity calendars. We also have a very good time sharing our weekly booklet activities. It is fun to listen to all of our classmates when they share their drawings and their writing.

We are about to begin work on the computers. We are so excited about this. Our first project is going to be putting our poems on the computer. We know it will be great. We didn't know that we were such creative poets! Grade 2 is a fun and busy place!!!

### 2012-2013 PRE-KINDERGARTEN & KINDERGARTEN OPEN HOUSE!

**On Thursday, November 3, we will hold our annual Pre-K and Kindergarten Open House for parents who are interested in sending their children to either of these programs next year. The open house will begin at 7:00 p.m. and is for adults only. During this time parents will have the opportunity to learn about our programs and to meet the teachers and ask questions.**

**Pre-Kindergarten applications for next year will be available beginning that night, and registrations will be accepted. (Kindergarten registration will not take place until February.) If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the main office.**

# **POOR: Having little or no wealth and few or no possessions**

- As of 2009, the US poverty rate has risen to its highest rate in 15 years
- This means that 43.6 million Americans are officially labeled as “poor”
  - This means that ONE out of every SEVEN Americans is poor



**“FOOD STAMPS” DO OFFER HELP FOR OUR POOR; HOWEVER, FOOD STAMPS DON’T COVER BASIC HYGIENE ITEMS SUCH AS SHAMPOO, SOAPS AND TOILET PAPER!!!**

**IF EVERY STUDENT IN ST. PHILIP SCHOOL COULD BRING IN 2 ROLLS OF TOILET PAPER, THIS WOULD BRING US CLOSE TO 600 ROLLS OF TOILET PAPER THAT WE COULD DONATE TO LOCAL SHELTERS. MEMBERS OF ST. PHILIP PARISH IN GREENVILLE VISIT THESE LOCATIONS ON A MONTHLY BASIS AND WOULD ENSURE THAT THESE SUPPLIES WOULD BE GIVEN TO THE NEEDIEST OF INDIVIDUALS!**

*“Whatsoever you have done unto the least of these my brethren you have done to me.” –Matthew 25:31 -46*

*Please consider this request!*