

St. Patrick

School News

The latest news from some of our St. Patrick School classrooms

Nursery and Pre-K **Mrs. Mulligan and Mrs. Frend**

It has been a true pleasure teaching the nursery and preschool children this year. They have learned and grown so much. In the nursery program, the children learned shapes, colors and number recognition. We practiced each day counting from 1 to 30. We learned about the weather, seasons, the alphabet, and days of the week. We taught the children many songs and read books. The children learned the Pledge of Allegiance. They also learned valuable social skills such as raising one's hand, how to form a line, sharing, how to listen to instruction and how to take one's turn. Religion is a very important component of the nursery school program. The children completed many projects utilizing our formalized religion book. Christmas and other religious holidays also served as the basis of many projects. The children learned the Hail Mary prayer as well as snack prayer. Religion was integrated throughout the school year.

In the pre-school program, the children learned alphabet recognition, the sound of each letter and words that begin with each letter. They learned their phone numbers and addresses as well as how to write their first and last names. Each week children wrote the numbers 1 through 10 and focused on a different letter of the alphabet. Simple addition and subtraction skills were introduced as well as other abstract concepts such as money and reading readiness. Religion is an integral component of the preschool curriculum. Religion was integrated daily into the curriculum as the children recited

the Hail Mary and Our Father prayers, snack prayers and completed weekly religion projects.

I wish you all a lovely summer and restful break.



Pre-K

Mrs. Van Slyck & Mrs. Comito

Well it's that time again. . . it seems like only yesterday that we were welcoming everyone into Pre-K. It was a wonderful year of growth and development, not just intellectually, but also emotionally, socially, and spiritually. The students all progressed very nicely. The children learned letter

recognition, letter sounds, writing, number recognition, prayers, songs, poems, sharing, and respect for one another—all of which is part of our Pre-K curriculum. They also went outside the box and were introduced to basic math concepts, learning literacy, and reading readiness concepts. They amazed Mrs. Comito and

myself each day with how much they enjoyed learning new things. We hope everyone enjoyed the school year as much as we did. We wish each and every one of you much success in your future years in school and a happy and safe summer.



Kindergarten

Mrs. Bienz & Mrs. Cronin

Wow, it is hard to believe this year is coming to an end! As we prepared for the end of school, the teachers and students had a chance to reflect on all the exciting things we have done and learned. It is hard to name our favorite moments. There were holiday celebrations and favorite authors. Then there was the discovery by the teachers and students that the children were ready to read books by themselves. At the end of the year the children drew pictures of themselves and compared these pictures to those they drew on the first day of school. The children are always so amazed at how different and more detailed their pictures have become. They take joy in recognizing the improvement of their handwriting. As we celebrate the kindergarten year coming to the end, we thank all the parents and the parish for their continued support and kindness. We hope everyone has a safe and fun summer. Don't forget to read!



**For more information on St. Patrick School,
call 631-724-0285 or visit the school website
at www.spssmith.org**

First Grade

Mrs. Verso & Mrs. DiPaola

The school year is over. The children in first grade ended the year on a high note. The first graders have come so far and learned so much. They have all learned to read, write, do math, and pray. We finished our unit on the Ocean. During this unit the first graders learned about the ocean animals and their habitat. The children performed the play "Commotion in the Ocean" for their parents at the end of the year party.

At the end of the year, the children presented their biography book reports to their classmates. They were all excited about the opportunity to share what they learned about a famous person with their classmates. During the last week, the students continued to move full speed ahead in math as they added and subtracted two digit numbers. Have a great summer vacation!



Third Grade

Mrs. Curran

The students have excelled in so many subjects this year. They covered multiplication, division, fractions, geometry, and so much more! They "traveled" to Australia, China and Mexico to discover many things about different cultures for their social studies program. The scientists in 3-1 learned about animal life, our solar system, physical science, and studied the systems of the human body. The children's writing skills have clearly improved and they have become avid readers! As always, our religion program allowed the children to find new ways to become closer to God, especially through prayer. We thank the parents and families of these students for being so supportive academically and spiritually. I look forward to seeing you all in September!



Second Grade

Mrs. Bubolo & Mrs. Spina

As the year comes to an end, the second grade reminisced about all the special events that took place. Reconciliation and Communion were the highlights of the school year. The second graders have grown in their faith as well as academically. Many other highlights will be remembered for years to come such as the exciting science units on oceans and dinosaurs. They engaged the children's

curiosity. Math presented the children with knowledge of regrouping up to three-digit numbers and their writing skills developed as the children have become wonderful authors and writers. Have a wonderful summer.



Fourth Grade

Mrs. Darmanin & Mrs. Dizinno

The fourth grade had a wonderful June. We ended the year with a real BANG! We all enjoyed a family BBQ hosted by Mr. DeRose and the kitchen crew. The students enjoyed hamburgers, hot dogs, and ices. They played sports with their friends and had fun on the blow-up slide. The highlight of the day was the fundraiser sponsored by student council. The students all lined up at the "dunk tank" and truly enjoyed dunking Mrs. Dizinno and Mrs. Darmanin. It was a real "splash!"

The fourth grade also enjoyed a retreat out to Our Lady of the Island Shrine. Mrs. Dizinno and Mrs. Darmanin were so proud of our students. They were so respectful and reverent. Both classes received many compliments from other guests at the Shrine. The students enjoyed the Stations of the Cross. They reflected and read a prayer at each station. The Rosary Walk was beautiful. The students walked reverently as we walked and prayed. The Mass at the Shrine was special. Some of our students were asked to read at the daily Mass and others brought up the gifts. The priest spoke directly to our students asking them many questions about both the Old and New Testament. The fourth grade students of St. Patrick shined as they knew all the

answers. They made Mrs. Dizinno and Mrs. Darmanin so proud! The students were also blessed with an unexpected surprise. They were able to take part in the Benediction. This was a topic our own Fr. Patrick had taught the fourth grade about several months earlier. The students processed out of the Mass to another chapel and sang



Third Grade

Mrs. Scholldorf

Students in Mrs. Scholldorf's class anticipate the joys of summer such as reading, trips to the beach, backyard pools, and adventures with family and friends. To celebrate third grade achievements during their "Movin' on Up to Fourth Grade" ceremony, students reminisced about science experiments, "trips" to foreign countries, book commercial Fridays, Mother's Tribute Tea, Field Day, drama productions, band concerts, and how their Catholic experience enriched personal character. Third Grade has ended. What a spectacular year!



My students, you leave me with fond memories to share,
About life's lessons-earned with patience and care.
Together on the road to learning, it's true,
My life is richer and ever more blessed
Because I loved, laughed with and taught each one of you!

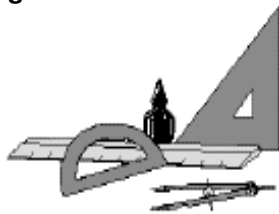
the refrain. They learned how to bow in front of the Monstrance. It was a spiritual day and they shined brightly.

Mrs. Dizinno and Mrs. Darmanin will miss all the students. Both classes had a wonderful year. Mrs. Dizinno and Mrs. Darmanin wish everyone a blessed, restful, and safe summer.

Fifth Grade

Mrs. King

In June, Mrs. King's grade 5 & 6 math classes worked on tools of geometry and geometry applications. They studied formula derivations and then using those formulas they solved word problems.



In religion, Mrs. King's homeroom assembled 50 lunch bags and coordinated efforts with those of Sandwich Society of St. John Nepumecene R.C. Church, Bohemia (see photo on next page). After learning about the psalms, students presented their interpretations and skits, power points, and collages.

Fifth Grade

Mrs. Guerriero

Class 5-1 studied and honored Mary in many ways during the month of May. They viewed <http://www.loyolapress.com/marian-resources.htm> on the SMART Board and read an on-line book entitled, *The Story of Mary* together. They learned about all the important events in Mary's life. They discussed characteristics of Mary, as well as ways we honor and celebrate Mary. They listed these things on flower petals and created a spiritual bouquet which hung in the hallway during the month. In addition, each student researched ways other countries celebrate Mary and wrote papers complete with beautiful covers and illustrations.

Fifth and sixth grade science classes ended the year with a bang! They performed the Mentos geyser experiment! Mrs. Guerriero rigged an enormous geyser by dropping Mentos mints into a bottle of soda and a geyser tube. This created a chemical reaction which causes to soda to go flying into the air!

Mrs. Guerriero wishes everyone a wonderful and relaxing summer! See you in September.



Did you know . . . that St. Patrick School is a founding member of the Catholic Middle Schools' Athletic Association? Our students compete with other Catholic schools in soccer, cross country, basketball, volleyball and baseball.

Seventh & Eighth Grade Social Studies

Mr. D'Elia

This year in social studies the 8th grade learned about many topics in American History from the Reconstruction to America in the 21st century. The students explored these topics by analyzing primary sources and reviewing Supreme Court decisions and acts of Congress.



This year in 7th grade social studies, students learned about the founding of the United States of America and the problems faced by the country from colonial times up until the Civil War. The students learned how to analyze documents and election results during their course of study in this topic.

Art

Mrs. Albanese

Think about making or purchasing an art sketchbook for the summer. It is great to draw what is around you on those lazy hot humid days. Practice makes perfect! Look into art classes around the area if you can. Usdan in Huntington has a great arts (music, drama, visual art, etc.) camp. Studio 703 in Port Jefferson has wonderful painting and clay classes. Check out the local libraries for free classes in your area. Of course, there is St. Patrick's summer fun camp.

The Art Exhibit this year was beautiful. A big thank you goes to the wonderful parents who helped set it up. A generous donation is being sent to Haiti from the sale of the Haiti House Magnets. Thanks to all who contributed.



Physical Education

Mrs. Manfred

Students at St. Patrick have completed the President's Physical Fitness Challenge and most have successfully done better than last year. Field Day was another success. Good weather, great help from parents and teachers, along with good sportsmanship from the students made this day so spectacular. I couldn't have asked for more.



Guidance

Mrs. Mulligan

This year has been a very busy and productive one. I continue to work as a guidance counselor for grades K through 8th and as a nursery and pre-school teacher Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. This year I have had the opportunity to go into the sixth grade every other week for the first half of the year, as well as third grade classes. During these classroom meetings, I presented the "Peace Works" program. The "Peace Works" program is character education that promotes and encourages citizenship, social responsibility, tolerance, self-awareness and personal growth. I have also met with the fifth grades numerous times regarding the topic of "bullying." I have shown "bullying" videos to the fourth and fifth grades, as well as to Mrs. Cowley's seventh grade class. I emphasized that students are to act in an appropriate and respectful manner at all times. This includes the bus, recess, lunch room, and classroom. I explained to the students the importance of respecting each other. I also went into Mrs. Pacinello's fifth grade class and asked them to sign pledges to not participate in bullying behavior. In the fall, I will be going into the fourth through eighth grades to have those students sign this pledge as well. When I go into the classrooms and discuss bullying, I explain to the students that they are accountable for their behavior. I also explain that bullying others is not Christian-like behavior.

St. Patrick School's pledge on bullying is as follows:

We will not bully others.

We will try to help students who are bullied.

We will make it a point to include students who are easily left out.

If we know that somebody is being bullied, we will tell an adult at school and at home.

A formalized anti-bullying committee has been formed for the fall. The committee members include the principal, the assistant principal, myself, and certain faculty members. The committee will meet weekly to discuss "bullying issues" that arise. In addition, the committee is used as a forum to formally present ideas and programs that will deter bullying behaviors. In the Fall, there will be more information presented about this topic in the hopes of deterring such behaviors.

This May I coordinated Career Day with Mrs. Mary McKee. A huge thank you to Mrs. Kerri Scanlon and Mr. John Habyan who were kind enough to take time out of their day to provide a wealth of information to the 8th graders about the career fields of nursing, healthcare, teaching, and professional baseball. I also presented a power point presentation to the 8th graders about possible career choices, the importance of getting involved in high school, job shadowing, and the importance of developing effective study skills in high school.

I have been meeting with students individually and in small groups through the school year. I am a member of the Child Study Team Committee, which meets weekly to discuss students who may be having academic, personal, or social difficulty.

If your son/daughter would like to meet with me regarding any academic, social, or personal difficulties they may be having, I may be reached at school at 724-0285 or you can write me a note or email me at www.spsmith.org and go to the public services section.

I wish you all a wonderful summer.

Little Things with Great Love



With each school project, something can be learned. For Mrs. King's 6th grade class at St. Patrick School, a project they completed earlier in the year and then repeated at the end of the year taught them a lesson in charity. The students put together 50 bag lunches (minus the sandwiches) which were delivered to the Sandwich Society, a ministry of St. John Nepomucene in Bohemia. The bags included water, pudding or applesauce, granola bars and chips, most of which was donated by Uncle Guiseppe's in Smithtown. The sandwiches will be added by members of the Sandwich Society. Deli meats as well as the bags, napkins and straws, were donated by the Uschok family, owners of Thrifty Deli in Ronkonkoma. The completed bags are given to those in need in the area.