



Welcome
to
meet the
teacher



about me

- 23rd year as a teacher in Catholic Education
- Taught 3rd grade for 7 years and 1st grade for 10 years
- 6th year teaching Lower Primary



about the teacher assistant



We are so fortunate to have Mrs. Murphy assisting us in Lower Primary this year.

She is a wonderful addition to our St. John Paul the Great Academy family.

Her two boys attend our Academy in Intermediate - Grade 5 (Logan) and Grade 6 (Jordan).



education



- St. Peter School (Class of '86)
 - Torrington High School (Class of '90)
 - Graduated from Central Connecticut State University with a B.S. in Education and a minor in Chemistry
- Master's Degree in Reading and Language Arts from CCSU
- Currently hold a teaching certificate with the State of Connecticut

FAMILY



- Husband, Matthew
(St. Francis School, Class of '84)
- Daughter, Mia - Age 14
(SJPTGA, Class of 2020)



CONTACT INFO

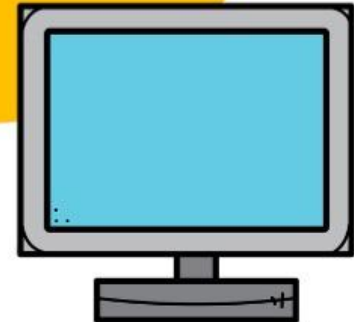
Phone



SJPTGA
(860)489-4177
Ext. 204

Email

lowerprimary@siptga.org



I check email throughout the day and will respond back by email, note or phone call within 24 hours. You can also leave me a message on my school voicemail.

CLASSROOM PROCEDURES *and* expectations



SCHEDULE

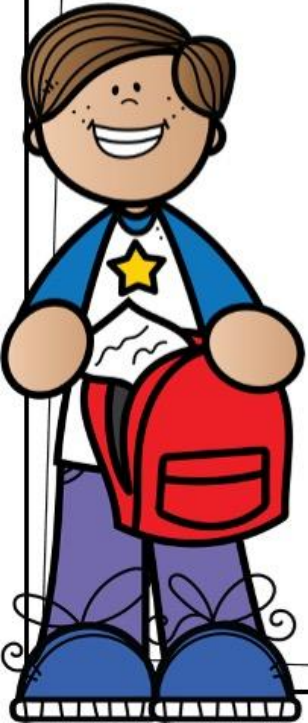
Specials



- Monday - Spanish (Rosetta Stone)
- Tuesday - Art with Mrs. Leach
- Wednesday - Music with Mrs. Hampton
- Thursday - Gym with Mr. Delaire
- Friday - Digital Platform Session



FOLDERS

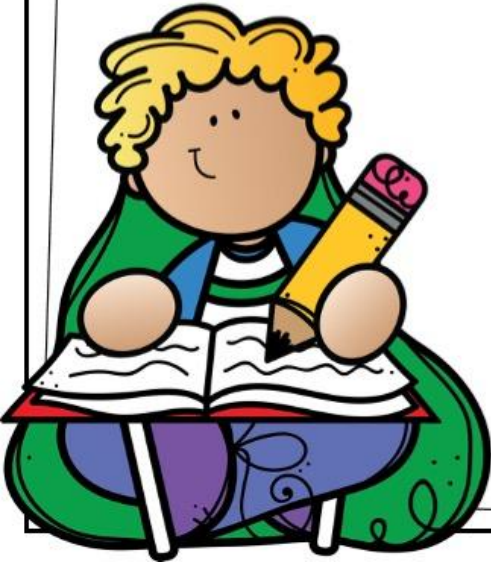


- Your child brings home a blue folder and student planner every day.
- On a daily basis, your child will be entering his/her homework and/or little reminders as well as weekly spelling words in their student planner. Please remember to check this daily.
- Please check the blue folder nightly for homework, corrected papers, and notices and make sure they are returned the next day.
- Any notes or money sent back to school should be returned in envelopes inside the blue folder.
- It is your child's responsibility to see to it that they give them to me in the morning.
- It is never too early to instill organizational skills and a sense of responsibility.



Homework

- Homework is given on Monday - Thursday.
- Please follow what is written in your child's student planner each day.
- All homework is to be done in PENCIL ONLY unless otherwise stated.
- No homework will be given on Friday.



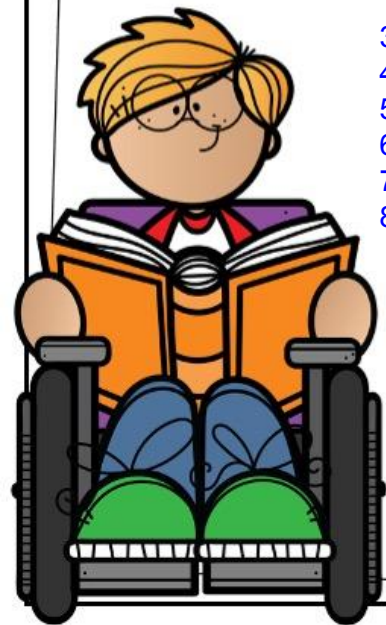
Reading Log

This year I will be using a digital reading log rather than the reading log folder I have used in the past. Each night after your child completes their 15 minutes (or more if they'd like) of reading, please complete the following:

1. Go to Google Classroom
2. Have your child sign in to their account using their school email and password you were sent at the beginning of the year.
3. Click on "Mrs. Mastro's Lower Primary" Class
4. On the Stream page at the top you will see "Reading Log for Week of Sept. 21"
5. Click on the blue link
6. You will now be in a Google Form
7. Answer the questions - (Name, Date, Title of Book, Read TO, WITH or BY child and parent initials)
8. Click "Submit"

It's that easy! Use this same link all year. I will make sure it is at the top of the Stream on Google Classroom everyday. All digital reading logs should be submitted through Google Forms on the Google Classroom **by 8 a.m.** using the above directions.

I look forward to seeing all the great books your child is reading at home as well as the topics they are interested in.



grading

- Please refer to the chart below from the OEEC - Office of Evangelization, Education and Catechesis.
- If your child receives a grade of a “1” (grade below 70) on a paper, it will be sent home with a pink “sign and return” sticker on it to be signed and returned the next day.

Standards-Based Performance Levels/ Measurement Codes for Primary Grades	
Measurement Codes	
5 -	Consistently exceeded grade level expectations.
4 -	Consistently achieved grade level expectations.
3 -	Approaching mastery of grade level expectations.
2 -	Approaching proficiency toward grade level expectations.
1 -	Difficulty meeting grade level expectations.
1 -	Incomplete Work.

Grade Percent	
5 -	95 - 100
4 -	87 - 94
3 -	80 - 86
2 -	70 - 79
1 -	0 - 69



SNACKS

- Your child has snack at about 9:45 each day.
 - They say Grace, have a bathroom break and a short time to eat snack.
 - One snack and drink is more than enough.
 - Remember to include the necessary utensils when packing their snack.
 - Do not send snacks in glass containers.
 - Healthy snacks such as fruit, carrot or celery sticks, raisins, popcorn, granola bars, etc.
- NO chips or candy, please.
 - Please remind your child there is NO sharing of food during snack or lunchtime.



LUNCH

- RECESS/LUNCH 11:15-11:55 (20 minutes each)
- No candy is allowed at lunch.
- If your child brings a “Lunchable” for lunch, the candy included in the “Lunchable” must be brought home.
- Also, NO fast food lunches may be brought in.
(Burger King, McDonald’s, Wendy’s, Subway, Taco Bell, etc.)



Dismissal

- Any changes to your child's departure schedule **MUST** be in writing by note or email at the start of the day.
- We understand that there are times when last minute arrangements are necessary, and in a situation like this, a phone call **MUST** be made to the office (prior to dismissal time) to avoid panic and confusion to your child.
- Thank you your cooperation in advance.



BOOK CLUB ORDERS

- Scholastic Book Orders are sent out monthly
- Please make checks payable to **Scholastic Reading Club** and include the order form in an envelope labeled with your child's name and "BOOK ORDER".
- You may also order online at:
www.scholastic.com/bookclubs
and enter class activation code H7FR4.



BIRTHDAYS

- As per the 2020-2021 Parent/Student Handbook, birthday treats are not allowed to be brought to school.
- If your child brings birthday invitations to pass out, there needs to be one for each student.
- Student birthdays are recognized with a birthday certificate, pencil and song. A birthday prayer is also read for them before the decade of the rosary.



PARENT CONFERENCES

- For the 1st trimester, parent conferences are only at the request of the teacher or the parent/guardian
- Conferences will occur via Zoom at the convenience of the teacher and parent/guardian schedule.



What we
will
Learn this Year



RELIGION

- Students will develop a deeper understanding of their faith, as well as a sense of community.
- Lower Primary began the year learning about the story of Creation.
- Students will journey through the life of Jesus from His birth to His Resurrection.
- Students will understand the Sacrament of Baptism and Holy Objects used during Mass and in Church.
- 2nd grade students will begin preparation for the sacraments of First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion mid January.



Reading

- Literacy instruction will take place through whole group and small group lessons.
- Students will be exposed to a variety of literature through read alouds, author studies and thematic units.
- Students will develop independence and stamina with reading and writing over time using the structure of the Daily 5.
- Each student will have their own book box to keep their “good fit” books in.



SPELLING LISTS

- Weekly spelling lists will be part of the Lower Primary curriculum.
- Students take pretest on Monday to determine the list (A, B, C) they will be working on during the week.
- Spelling tests occur on Friday mornings.
- Weekly spelling words are always written in their student planner on the page opposite their weekly assignments.



math

- Math curriculum will be differentiated based on students' needs using the enVision math series and math centers.
- Manipulatives are used whenever possible to introduce new concepts and to help bridge the gap from the concrete to the abstract.
- Manipulatives include ten frames, place value blocks, linking cubes, chips, coins, rulers, graphs, clocks and calendars.



Science



- Science units will provide for hands-on opportunities along with STREAM challenges

A few of the units we will be covering:

- Moon and Space
- Bats
- Matter

Students will utilize a Science Interactive Notebook to record information and completed projects.



ONLINE Learning

The following digital platforms will be utilized in Lower Primary during the 2020-2021 school year:

- Epic! - (Leading Digital Library for Kids)
- eSpark - (Differentiated Reading and Math)
- Rosetta Stone - (World Language/Spanish Program)
- Literably - (Reading Level Assessment)
- Boom Cards - (Digital, Self-Checking Interactive Activities)
- Vocabulary/Spelling City - (Games to Practice Weekly Spelling Words)
- IXL - (Math, Language Arts, Science, Social Studies)
- Defined Learning - (Real-Life Project Based Learning/STREAM)

