

MRS. A'S NEWS

NOVEMBER 2, 2010

THANK YOU; WE EARNED ANOTHER ICE CREAM PARTY! 140 BOX TOPS AND SOUP LABELS SOUNDED IMPOSSIBLE, BUT NOT TO OUR KINDERGARTEN FAMILIES.

AND, THANKS TO OUR FABULOUS ROOM MOM, THERESA LUTKE, AND ALL OF THE PARENTS WHO DONATED TO OUR ENJOYABLE HALLOWEEN PARTY LAST FRIDAY. I DIDN'T EXPECT TO ENJOY MYSELF SO MUCH AND FOUND YOUR CHILDREN REALLY FUN. THE GAMES AND ACTIVITIES WERE ENGAGING FOR THE STUDENTS, AND BECAUSE OF YOUR DEDICATION AND SACRIFICES, WE HAD A VERY COMFORTABLE RATIO OF ADULTS TO STUDENTS.

REMINDER TO ANY AND ALL STUDENTS WHO WISH TO AUDITION FOR OUR ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PROGRAM, THE AUDITIONS ARE THIS THURSDAY 11/4. LAST YEAR WE DID HAVE A KINDERGARTNER IN THE PRODUCTION, WHICH INVOLVED MANY INTENSE AFTERNOONS REHEARSING AND TIME AT HOME MEMORIZING LINES. IF YOU ARE INTERESTED, PLEASE REFERENCE THE LETTER SENT HOME LAST WEDNESDAY FROM MRS. SMITH.

THIS COMING FRIDAY 11/5 IS A NON-STUDENT DAY AT SSJ. THE TEACHERS HAVE A DIOCESAN-WIDE TEACHER IN-SERVICE AT SERVITE HIGH SCHOOL. STAY CARE WILL ALSO BE CLOSED.

LAST WEEK WE BEGAN OUR THIRD READING UNIT OF THE YEAR: FINDING FRIENDS. ALL CHILDREN WANT TO HAVE AT LEAST ONE GOOD FRIEND, BUT CHOOSING AND MAINTAINING FRIENDSHIPS CAN BE A CHALLENGE. THE STORIES IN THIS UNIT PRESENT SOME OF THE FRIENDSHIP ISSUES WITH WHICH KINDERGARTNERS STRUGGLE. BY DESCRIBING CHARACTERS' ACTIONS, THOUGHTS, AND FEELINGS, THE STORIES OFFER MODELS OF HOW AND WHY PEOPLE ACT AS THEY DO. THE UNIT STORIES GIVE CHILDREN A BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF HOW TO FIND AND KEEP A FRIEND.

OUR FIRST FRIENDSHIP STORY IS ABOUT AN OLD CAT NAMED GINGER WHICH MUST DEAL WITH A NEW KITTEN THAT HAS JOINED THE HOUSEHOLD. LIKE GINGER, YOUR CHILD MAY SOMETIMES FIND IT DIFFICULT TO SHARE. KNOWING THEY DON'T ALWAYS HAVE TO SHARE CAN HELP YOUNG CHILDREN SHARE MORE WILLINGLY.

WE HAVE NOW FINISHED ALL OF THE LESSONS IN OUR *SECOND STEP* PROGRAM. WHAT A LOT WE HAVE LEARNED! WE HAVE LEARNED ABOUT OUR OWN AND OTHERS' FEELINGS. WE HAVE LEARNED HOW TO CALM DOWN AND MANAGE OUR ANGER. WE HAVE LEARNED HOW TO SOLVE PROBLEMS AND MAKE AND KEEP FRIENDS. WE WILL CONTINUE TO PRACTICE THESE SKILLS EVERY DAY.

**GOD BLESS AND I LOOK FORWARD TO
OUR CONFERENCES NEXT WEEK.**

Debbie Andrews

