

Dear Parents,

We extend our deepest sympathies to the Mead family on the loss of their loved one, Mr. Joe Mead. Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him. May his soul, and all the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God rest in peace. Amen.

Since the beginning of the year students have been taking assessments like the Accelerated Reader STAR testing, MAP Growth testing, and other classroom assessments. These assessments assist in determining which students should receive Title 1 services. Divine Mercy Catholic School is a Title 1 school, and Mrs. Gerardot is our Title 1 teacher. What does this mean? The Title 1 program is a school-wide, federally funded program to provide additional assistance in reaching reading and math proficiency. The following criteria are used to select students to participate in the Title 1 program:

- MAP Growth scores in reading and/or math that fall below the 50% NPR (National Percentile Ranking)
- Star Reading test indicating below grade level reading placement
- Teacher criteria checklist indicating classroom performance below expected level

Students who qualify receive additional reading and/or math instruction by the Title 1 teacher. Students receive an additional 25-30 minutes of reading instruction week from our highly-qualified Title 1 teacher. **If your student is receiving Title 1 instruction, you'll receive an email letting you know (if you haven't already).** Please check out our School-Parent Compact and Parent Involvement Policy attached to this email. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact Mrs. Amanda Gerardot, the Title 1 teacher, or myself.

Mr. Linder

Important Dates:

October

- Fri. 10/6 - Mass and Food Pantry
- Thur. 10/12 - Mass @ 9:15
- Fri. 10/13 - 2 Hour Delay - Teacher In-Service
- Fri. 10/13 - Fundraiser Dance Party @ 1:30 in Hall
- Mon. 10/16 - Fundraiser items delivered to school
- Mon. 10/16 - PTA meeting @ 6:30 in Mr. Grant's room
- Fri. 10/20 - End of 1st Quarter
- Fri. 10/20 - Mass @ 9:15
- Oct. 23-27 - Red Ribbon Week Activities - Say no to drugs
- Wed. 10/25 - Visit to Our Lady of Consolation National Shrine in Carey
- Fri. 10/27 - Mass @ 9:15
- Oct. 30 - Nov. 7 - Fall Book Fair
- Tues. 10/31 - Book Fair Guest Lunch

Paper Forms Coming Home:

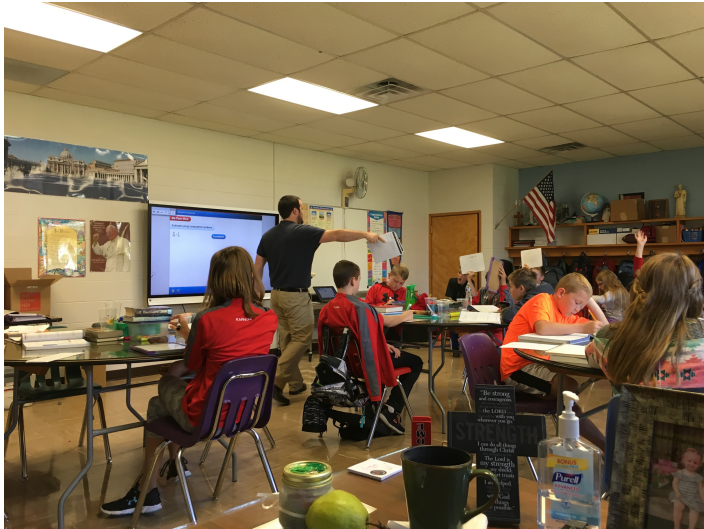
- Scholastic Order Forms



Yesterday, October 3rd, many pets were blessed by Father Poggemeyer. Thank you to everyone who brought their pet. The blessing occurred a day before the feast of Saint Francis of Assisi, the patron saint of animals.

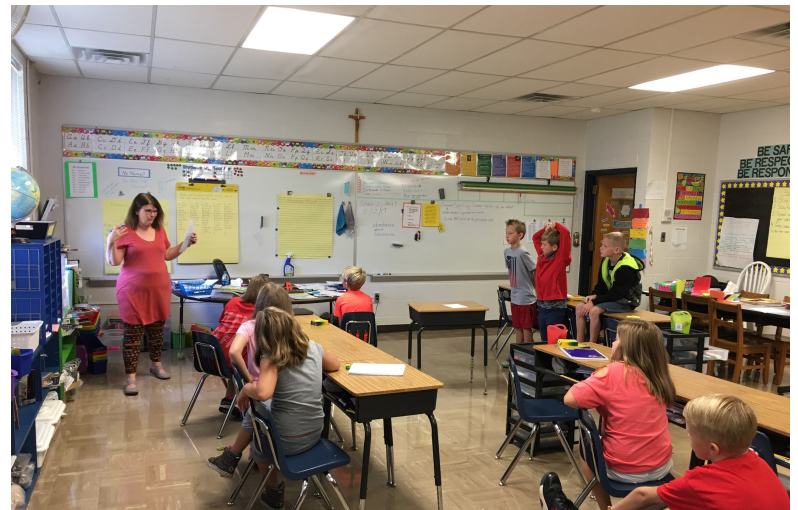
- ❖ The fifth graders will take the ACRE assessment tomorrow. This assessment is designed to strengthen catechetical/religious education programs. The Assessment of Children/Youth Religious Education (ACRE) helps schools evaluate the faith, knowledge, and attitudes of students in Catholic schools.
- ❖ This Friday, October 6th, is Food Pantry. Food Pantry takes place at the first Friday school Mass of every month. Non-perishable items will be placed in a basket in front of the altar, and delivered to the Methodist Church food pantry. Thank you for supporting this ministry!
- ❖ October Scholastic book orders are due back to the school office by **Monday, October 9th.**
- ❖ On **Monday, October 16th**, the Fall Fundraiser items will be delivered to school. Parents of students that have sold more items that can be transported on the school bus are asked to pick up their student and the fundraiser boxes on that day. If you find any mistakes in your student's box, please let us know as soon as possible.
- ❖ Mark your calendar for our **Reconciliation Parent meeting – Sunday, October 22 at 7 PM at the Educational Center in Paulding. At least one parent needs to attend this meeting.** It will last about 1 hour. If you cannot come that evening, please call me as soon as possible to set up another time to meet. Students do not need to attend, but if you need to bring your child(ren), please bring something for them to work on during the meeting.

I would like to acknowledge all of the hard work and dedication from our great teachers. It's not uncommon (as you may know from driving by the school) that staff members put in many extra after school hours. This is a very dedicated staff, and the extra work put in shows up during their lessons. Throughout this week, I have been able to spend a lot of time in the classrooms, and what I saw was great.



Students in grades 5&6 are doing a great job using their Chromebooks, and Mr. Grant has been doing a great job getting them accustomed to the Google features (I saw them turning in a Beatitudes writing assignment using Google Drive).

In Mrs. Gideon's 3rd grade reading class, students are getting very individualized reading instruction. When I was in the room, each student was selecting their spelling words for their weekly test. The class did a great job coming up with new words to add to the list, and I know Mrs. Gideon is allowing parents to contribute to the lists too.



In Miss Sullivan's reading class, students were working well together in small groups and engaged in their tasks. Character and setting activity stations were set up, silent reading groups, and guiding reading groups with Miss Sullivan were all engaging the students in individualized instruction.



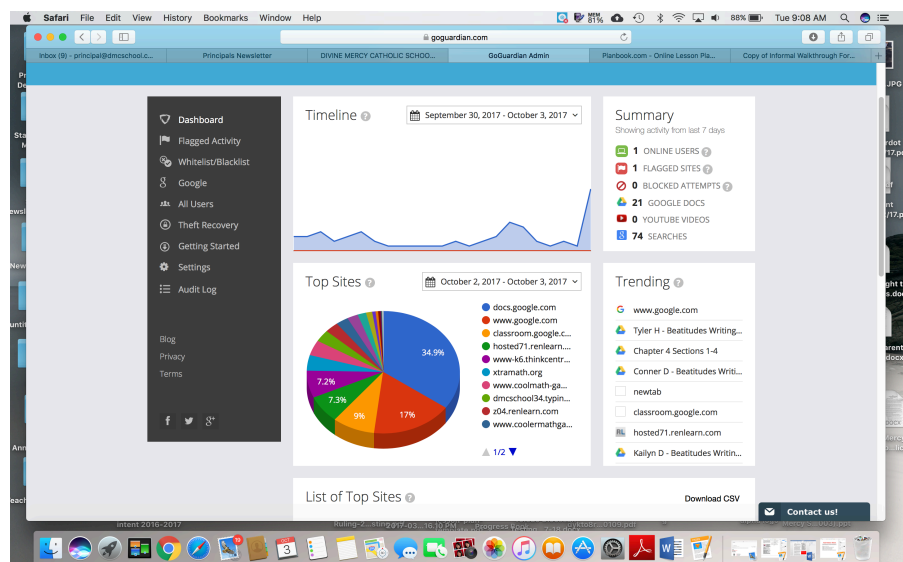


In Mrs. Gerardot's room, I watched our second graders work cooperatively in stations. One station had them piecing together interactive grammar notebooks (where was this stuff when I was a kid). They also started the class with a community building activity.

In our mighty kindergarten class, Mrs. Mumma is constantly sending in students eager to show off their reading abilities to Mrs. Kuhn, Mrs. Stuart, or myself. I hear they are doing great reading at home too. This is a picture of the habitats that they're learning about, to prepare for a guest speaker who's coming in tomorrow for science.



During our open house parent meetings, I mentioned that we'll be able to monitor the student's activity on the Chromebooks. The screenshot (right) gives you an idea of what can be seen throughout the day. We have the ability to check each student's specific searches, what YouTube videos are being watched, any flagged sites, etc. This is a great program that will allow us to keep our students safe at school and at home.



Classroom Spotlight

In all the reading classes, we have dived deep into the Guided Reading program and doing centers. Students have been learning about all the different parts of speech and putting together their interactive grammar notebooks. The students have enjoyed picking out their spelling words from a rather large class list, making it their own and to their spelling level. In reading, the students have worked on making predictions, sequence of events, making inferences, and character, setting, and plot. Pictured are the second graders doing a community building activity and working on their grammar notebooks.

