

October 3, 2011

Dear First Grade Families:

### **Blessing of the Pets**

We will celebrate the feast of St. Francis with the "blessing of the pets" Tuesday, October 4. Parents may bring a family pet on a leash or in an appropriate container to the school courtyard at 2:00 for the short prayer service followed by the individual blessing.

### **Fun Run**

The next Fun Run t-shirt day is Wednesday, October 5, for the Fun Run! Students need to wear running shoes, socks, and pants or shorts on Wednesday. The first graders run between 9:15 – 9:55. Please come and cheer us on!

### **Field Trip News**

The first graders are very excited about the field trip scheduled for Thursday, October 6th, to Carver Farms in the Spokane Valley from 12:15 to 2:45. Twenty permission slips have been returned. **Monies must accompany the permission slip. If you have lost your permission slip, please contact Mrs. Matsch in the office.** The following parents have signed up to drive: Bacon, Chilimidos, Harvey, Mr. and Mrs. Jolie, and Scholomer. **We currently have enough seatbelts for 25 students.** All drivers must have a current code of conduct training on file in the office. **All students must have a permission slip and a car or booster seat to attend the field trip. Students will need to wear uniform and bring outerwear appropriate for the weather conditions.**

### **Book It!**

Book It! is an at-home reading incentive program. You and your child need to read **twelve (12) books at home during the month of October.** You may read the books to your child or your child may read the books to you. When your family has reached the goal of twelve books, please return the reading log to school. I will give your child a certificate for a **free personal pan pizza from Pizza Hut. It is very important that all first graders participate in Book It! each and every month.** If the class makes its goal, each month, they will earn a class pizza party in April. I hope we can work together and earn the pizza party.

### **Academic Changes**

This year I have adjusted the assessment days to Monday (phonetic test) and Wednesday (sight word test) based upon when I have parent help. Mrs. Ray will try to assess and change sight words at the same time as the assessment **when the student passes and has the practice bag available on Wednesdays to do so.** First grade has completed the family unit in social studies and the Family Life unit in Religion. They will begin a weather unit in science and start the regular religion curriculum with brand new books this week.

### **Homework**

Due to the short week, we **will** have the spelling test on Thursday. The spelling words are from the literature selection, **A Fox and a Kit:**

nap naps sit sits win wins fit fits hit hits \*her \*too

### **Reminders**

**Book orders are due on Thursday, October 6th.**

**There will not be school on Friday, October 7<sup>th</sup>, due to a diocesan teacher inservice day.**

Thanks,  
Becky Clift