

VikingVoice

St. Vincent de Paul School

Committed to Excellence in Catholic Education since 1924

Theatre Isn't Just for Middle School Anymore!

As mentioned in our Annual Giving campaign materials and previous *VikingVoice* newsletters, Mary Powelson, Theatre Arts Director, is bringing her talents to the lower grades. She is developing curriculum to integrate basic theatre arts skills with existing grade-level curriculum. Her program benefits enhanced learning and satisfies Common Core and State Standards.

In November, 3rd grade worked on performance skills and improvisation technique while learning about Laws and Rules. Their culminating project was a guided improvisations skit on how an idea becomes a law. In our 3rd grade government, the bill was vetoed and we will not have a law saying all Americans are entitled to a unicorn and a swimming pool in their backyards.

Our 4th grade worked on their skills while exploring Native American legends in early California tribes. The unit culminated in five original skits. The short plays were developed in class, written by students and performed in front of parents and teachers during class.





Thanksgiving Meal - Kindergarten Style

Mrs. Carmignani and Mrs. Strain treated the kindergarten class to a Thanksgiving feast before break. The children enjoyed the meal, especially the pumpkin pie with whipped cream.

November was host to several field trips. The 1st grade hiked to Inspiration Point with the Presidio Trust Teacher Guides, the 3rd grade learned about plants at Sloat Garden Center and the Conservatory of Flowers, and the 6th grade enjoyed a trip to the Mission. The funds for these field trips comes from our Annual Giving Campaign. Participating in Annual Giving is easy, [click here](#) for more information.



6th Grade Tours the Mission

This fun and educational outing included a workshop at La Victoria Panaderia, a Balmy Alley Mural Walk, Lunch at La Corneta Taqueria, a visit to the Mission Cultural Center and shopping at Casa Bonampak store.

3rd Grade at the Conservatory of Flowers

Our 3rd grade is studying plants and went to both Sloat Garden Center and the Conservatory

of Flowers to learn from experts about plant adaptability.



1st Grade Parent Teaching

Mrs. McMonigle has invited parents to participate in the classroom through her parent teaching program. Parents volunteer to teach about their professions, heritage, culture and other topics. In November, Brandon Drew taught the 1st grade about beekeeping. It was a fun and interactive presentation including a honey tasting.



Community Service

In November our 4th graders participated in our ongoing sandwich drive. They made 250 sandwiches to be distributed through Catholic Charities.



We appreciate all the Thanksgiving food donations given by our families in support of the St. Vincent de Paul Society. It was an amazing display of food and generosity. Thanks to everyone for participating.



Book Fair

Hooray to parents and children for shopping the book fair. In addition to adding to your own libraries, our teachers received 90 books from their wish lists, and SVDP received \$450 for new library books, a \$600 voucher for instructional materials, and made a profit of \$1,650.

MEET THE STAFF

Domonique Riojas

1st Grade Aide

Ms. Riojas is grateful for her position at SVDP and being well prepared for when she becomes a classroom teacher.

FUN FACTS:

Favorite Food: Green enchiladas or tamales, specifically on Christmas Day!

Hidden Talent: Volleyball, she played for 10 years and coached too.

First Job: Sees Candy, yes, she wore the outfit.

Currently Reading: CSET (California Subject Examination for Teachers) books



Julie Franceschi



4th Grade Teacher

Mrs. Franceschi has been a part of the SVDP community since she was five years old!

FUN FACTS:

Favorite Children's Book: *A Light in the Attic* by Shel Silverstein

Pets: A 14 year old Border Collie named Abby

Favorite Clothing Item: flip-flops

About Happiness: "I am happiest when I am on vacation."

Vicki Bamsey

Art Teacher

Mrs. Bamsey loves drawing, watercolor, sculpting, collage, metalwork as well as walking, hiking, tennis and reading.

FUN FACTS:

Favorite Song: "I can't stop singing, *Let It Go*."

Greatest Strength: an optimistic outlook

Favorite Board Game: RISK

Place of birth: Boone, Iowa



Jessica Cannata

3rd - 5th Grade Literacy Coach

Ms. Cannata is also mom to two boys, ages three and one.

FUN FACTS:

Favorite Food: Sourdough bread

First Job: "I worked at an ice cream parlor in Hawaii every summer in high school and college. I got to eat as much ice cream as I wanted."

Favorite Article of Clothing: shoes

Favorite Place to Shop: Anthropologie and J Crew

DATES TO REMEMBER

December 8 - Holy Day of Obligation: Immaculate Conception Mass @ 9:15

December 14 - School Advent Program @ 6:30PM in the church
December 20 - Nativity Program @ 2:15 in the church (no extended care)
December 21 - January 3 - Christmas Break



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