



**PRINCIPAL CORNER for NOVEMBER 10th**  
**Engaged Students and Teachers**

Three weeks ago, I gave a tour to a mom who was considering enrolling her child in St. Cecilia. We chatted for a bit about our curriculum, schedule and culture before taking a tour of the school.

Our Pre-K students were busy building and creating with their STEM boxes. In Kindergarten, students eagerly shared their Writers' Workshop pieces, reading their own writing, and showing detailed drawings. Our 1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup> graders were out on recess, so we looked at the flexible seating with soft lamps for lighting in their classroom.

In 3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> grade, Trinity put out her hand to introduce herself, welcome our visitor, and explain what she and her classmates were working on. In their classroom, we observed several cups with dirt and plants in various stages of growth; the variable was the amount of water in each cup. Across the hall, we popped in to take a look at our amazing STEM lab and check out the mousetrap cars that our 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> graders created.

7<sup>th</sup> graders Jesus, Emma and Joey were sprawled out in the hallway right near their classroom, working on their saint projects. 8<sup>th</sup> graders Kate, Mary and Myla were busy doing geometry. 5<sup>th</sup> graders were engaged in a math lesson with Mrs. Alexis, while 6<sup>th</sup> graders were completing a Math quiz.

Mrs. Lee-Despard was explaining a problem in algebra while the pre-algebra students were completing math work, doing research or completing their writing assignment.

It was remarkable to walk through every classroom and witness the connection of students to one another and to their teachers as they joyfully engaged in learning. The mom who was with me on the tour was impressed with our students and teachers. Her son just finished up his second week as a student at SCCS.

With joy,  
Susan Kilbane

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**OUR WORD FOR NOVEMBER:**  
**GRATITUDE**

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St. Cecilia Catholic School is a faith-based community following the teachings of Jesus that inspires an inquisitive mind and a lifelong commitment to learning, service and stewardship.