My Goals as Saints Peter and Paul’s First and Second Grade Teacher

By: Amber VanGunten

 This is my fourth year teaching at Saints Peter and Paul School, and I can’t imagine a better way to spend my days! I love to watch these little ones grow and learn. I feel blessed every time I see a light go on, or hear the kids exclaim, “That is so cool!” There are so many new things for first and second graders to learn, and I have really enjoyed learning with them along the way.

 In our room we spend a lot of time learning how to act like “learners.” We work hard on classroom procedures and on doing things the “school way.” Using Jesus and the saints as our example, we learn how to work and play together as children of God. I strive to help make Jesus real for them and help them to understand how much He loves each of them and that He wants us to love each other the same way.

 The other main focus in first and second grade is literacy. At this age, kids learn to read so that later on they can read to learn. So reading and writing are incorporated into almost everything that we do. We do all sorts of activities to help us learn this critical skill.

 My goal as their teacher is to help each one of my students experience Christ through me. I pray that I am able to see them as Christ does and I can help lead them to Him. I want for them to be engaged and excited about learning and for them to strive to become the best that they can be.

 My hope is that they leave this room with the knowledge, confidence and courage to do their best and to help each other achieve theirs. I know that God has a very special plan for each of them and I feel very honored to be a part of their formation.

 Thank you,

 Amber VanGunten