

MARY IMMACULATE CATHOLIC SCHOOL

# Rose Harrelson named teacher of the year

## SUBMITTORY STORY

Kindergarten teacher Rose Harrelson was recently chosen by her peers as teacher of the year for Mary Immaculate Catholic School in Farmers Branch.

A lifelong member of Mary Immaculate Church, Harrelson began teaching fourth grade at Mary Immaculate after graduating from Stephen F. Austin State University in 1998 with a degree in elementary education.

After four years of teaching fourth grade, Harrelson took a temporary break to spend eight years at home raising her three children. She returned to Mary Immaculate in 2011 as a kindergarten teacher, now leads the school's kindergarten program.

"I was ordained and handled all at the same time when our principal announced that I was

teacher of the year," she said. "I felt excited to know that my colleagues would choose me as one of all the talented and hard-working teachers here at Mary Immaculate School. I am also humbled to think that maybe God is trying to tell me that teaching is truly my vocation."

After 12 years of teaching kindergarten, Harrelson's passion for teaching still shines.

"I sincerely enjoy the spontaneity and enthusiasm my kindergarten students bring to school each day," she said. "From the crafts they lovingly create for me over the weekend to the show-and-tell items they bring to class that make me realize that they truly did learn something from your day's lessons."

Harrelson and her husband of 25 years, Brian, live in Carrollton with their three children,



Photo submitted by ROSEMARY HART 06.2

Rose Harrelson, who was named Mary Immaculate School's teacher of the year, sits with her kindergarten students.

who are graduates of Mary Immaculate.

Rosemary Mariner submitted information for this story on

behalf of Mary Immaculate Catholic School.

## LEWISVILLE ISD

# Meteorologist teaches students about clouds, storms

## SUBMITTORY STORY

Fourth-graders at Indian Creek Elementary in Carrollton learned about clouds, thunderstorms and lightning when WFAA meteorologist Colleen Coyle visited the school recently as part of the student's Weather Minutes.

Addressing a group of excited students, Coyle began the presentation by asking fourth-graders how many of them like math, science and talking. A flurry of hands shot in the air. Coyle explained that as a meteorologist, she uses all three of those.

"My job as a meteorologist is to always monitor the weather outside to keep each of you safe," Coyle said.

Using a Smartboard, Coyle asked students to identify photos of various forms of weather: tornadoes, hurricanes, lightning and thunderstorms, and then discussed each component.

Next, she taught students



Photo submitted by BRITTANY WHITMAN

WFAA meteorologist Colleen Coyle gives a presentation to Indian Creek 4th-graders.

about clouds, telling them the atmosphere weighs down, which is why clouds don't simply fall out of the sky. Then, she told them how a hurricane forms in a cloud and how hail is quar-

ter-skied.

Coyle then discussed springtime weather in Texas and how it's usually volatile, leading her to watch the fourth-graders absorb seven thunder-

storm videos.

Students also learned how to keep safe during a severe thunderstorm or tornado. Choosing three students as volunteers, Coyle had them de-

monstrate the "duck and cover" pose.

She advised students to purchase a weather radio and program it specifically for North Texas. If they are outside during a severe storm to get inside, and if they can't get inside, to immediately go to a low-lying area.

Coyle finished her presentation by discussing tornadoes and the types commonly found in North Texas, including rain-wrapped tornadoes and the difference between a funnel cloud and a tornado.

Using a tornado model, Coyle showed students how a tornado forms.

"I loved learning about the super coil tornadoes," student Baha Cho said. "I loved her weather tornado model."

Brittany Whitman submitted information for this story on behalf of Lewisville ISD.