

Kindergarten Connection

Spiritual Growth, Academic Excellence, Moral Integrity

English Language Arts

I can't believe how quickly the 1st week of Advent has passed, with the second beginning on Sunday. As our International Holiday Unit continues we have been learning about Mexico, and Sweden this week. We have read several articles and books related to the special rituals and holidays celebrated in each of these countries. As a sneak peek into Mexico we made our own poinsettias on Tuesday and 3 homemade piñatas on Wednesday. Located north of Germany is the country of Sweden. The children learned about St. Lucia. Lucia was a brave girl who lived during the 4th century. She wore a crown of candles upon her head to light the dark tunnels as she brought food to Christians who were hiding due to fear of persecution. We will be creating St. Lucia Day crowns and star boy hats on Monday to celebrate this special Swedish tradition. The feast day of St. Lucia is Wednesday, December 13th. Next week we will have our own procession in our "crowns while we listen to Swedish carols and then we will enjoy a traditional St. Lucia Day treat of hot chocolate and donuts at snack time. (no snacks necessary this day unless your child won't eat a donut) SHHHH...



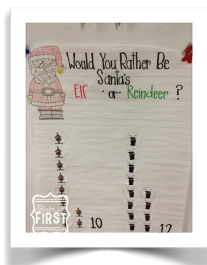
We have begun making a secret Christmas present for you. The children will be working very hard on the card next week. I hope you enjoy them on Christmas morning. Please know that these special gifts should be handled with care, as they are fragile.

Math

We have been working on teen numbers as well as adding and subtraction numbers to 5. We made a graph showing our favorite Christmas activities today. Ask your child for the most popular one! We began a new center sheet last Friday and here is a look at what we are working on:

1. Roll a Christmas Tree game
2. Trim a Tree Graphing
3. Santa Dot to Dot 1-47
4. St. Lucia Lights graphing Sheet
5. Number Race
6. Number Pyramid building teen numbers

The guessing jar has fruit flavored Tootsie Rolls in it this week. Ask your child if we had time to count the jar today otherwise it will wait until next week!



Bits and Pieces

Vanilla Frosting

Please send in one can of regular vanilla frosting with your child by

Thursday, December 14th.

We will use them to frost gingerbread houses on December 21st.

Gingerbread Supplies

Supplies needed for decorating the gingerbread houses on Dec. 21 are attached to this letter. Please send in the

item(s) I have assigned by **Thursday, December 14th.** Let me know if you have any questions or comments.

Christmas Concert

Festive Christmas best clothing should be worn to the concert on 12/20. No jeans or sneakers.

ELA Centers From This Week

Below are the centers your child completed this week.

POETRY NOTEBOOKS

"Five Little Soldiers"

UNDERCOVER

Mexican book page and flag.

LISTENING CENTER

"Holidays: Christmas" on EPIC

MATH LAB

It's a Fiesta pattern paper

DISCOVERY

Swedish book page and flag.

WRITING

Santa please bring me...
Christmas stocking writing

ABC CENTER

International Holiday Journal cover, Mary and Gabriel pictures.

ART FUN

Paper poinsettias and paper mache

EXTRA FUN

Easels, Puzzles, Independent/Buddy Reading, Meet with Mrs. Ziemba, iPads.

Religion

In religion this week our focus is on Advent. The children made the angel Gabriel and used their hands to make his wings. They love singing "To Bring Good News" which tells the story of Gabriel visiting Mary to tell her about the baby Jesus. We have been hanging special Jesse Tree ornaments on our own tree in the classroom. Our class is completing super kind acts to ready our hearts for Christmas. As kind acts happen, the children get to put a piece of paper hay into our Nativity to build the bed for baby Jesus. Faith Families were lots of fun today! Each family made a different Jesse Tree ornament which will be adorning the tree in the lobby. As usual, we discussed our Promise Magazine for this weekend.

Our International Polar Express Day will be on Friday, December 15th. We will be traveling to 8 countries on the Polar Express! The children can wear their festive pajamas to school for the big event. No snacks are needed however all students must bring a lunch from home since we aren't eating in the cafeteria.



Bits and Pieces

St. Nicholas Came!

Wednesday, December 6th The children were thrilled to find their "wooden paper shoes" filled with treats from St. Nicholas. Hopefully, you got a chance to see them!

Comfy Cozy Day is Thursday, December 21. We will be having a birthday lunch in the classroom for Caroline. Details coming soon. The kids can dress in comfy clothes (PJ's if appropriate). This is a full day and there is **no** **aftercare.**

Snack Change

Note: No snack is needed on **Wednesday, December 13th** because we are having donuts and hot chocolate in honor of Sweden's St. Lucia celebration. If your child doesn't like that snack feel free to send one in from home.

The Bishop is Coming! December 13

students need to wear their dress uniforms to school

WANTED: We are in need of Modge Podge and 8 1/2 x11 white Astro Bright card stock. if you would like to purchase either for the classroom that would be great. Thanks!