

Kindergarten Connection

Spiritual Growth, Academic Excellence, Moral Integrity

English Language Arts

We moved on to the United Kingdom and Israel this week. The children learned about Christmas crackers and Father Christmas. Many children thought it was funny to learn that in England people say, Happy Christmas instead of Merry Christmas! We read some interesting books about Hanukkah and how the Hebrews defeated King Antioch and his men. We learned about the dreidel game. Our International Holiday Unit is winding down with our Polar Express International Festival today which is our culminating activity. I thank you all for donations, decorating and running the event. **The biggest thank you goes to Rebecca Sierputowski for helping me organize the event with the other room parents from K-3 as well as making all of the Polar Express tickets!**



The gingerbread houses that are coming home next Thursday **are not edible**. They are for decoration only. Thanks to Lauren Carola for making all of the houses and supplying the hot chocolate and donuts for our St. Lucia celebration on Wednesday. We had a lovely procession around our classroom while we listened to some traditional Swedish Christmas music, I can't believe how quickly these two weeks of Advent have passed, with the third beginning Sunday. The children will use their foot and hand to make an adorable reindeer next week. We will make our final page to our journals by making the American flag

and book page next week as well. There won't be a newsletter until the New Year.

Math

The children enjoyed playing the tens counting game during large group activities. We spent some time classifying/sorting this week. Fun was had by all as we played our new favorite game, Read My Mind. This is such an amazing way to think through how things are being sorted without being able to talk! Each child had a black and white cube to use when trying to tell me where they thought I should put the various items I was sorting. Here are the centers the children worked on this week; Piñata Party graphing, Number File Folder Activities, Let's Decorate Graphing, Reindeer Addition game, wreath dot to dot, and Math Journal- composing numbers using math boxes.

We are just about finished making the secret Christmas present for you. The children have worked very hard on the card and present. I hope you enjoy them on Christmas morning. Please know that these special gifts should be handled with care, as they are fragile. Look for them next week!



Bits and Pieces

Literacy Pouches

There won't be any literacy pouches this coming week. Enjoy the freedom! We Will begin again on January 8th.

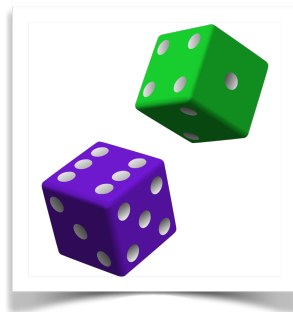
Gingerbread Houses

We are looking forward to decorating our gingerbread houses next Thursday! **Thanks for all the supplies.**

Work Folders

Work Folders are coming home Wednesday, December 20. This gives you the chance to get the work folder back to me before Christmas break on Thursday.

Next Thursday is Comfy Cozy Day. Appropriate PJ's or lounge wear is allowed. We will be breaking our piñata.



ELA Centers From This Week

Below are the centers your child completed this week.

POETRY NOTEBOOKS

"Santa"

UNDERCOVER

England and Israel book pages and flags .

MEET WITH MRS. ZIEMBA

Christmas Card

MATH LAB

Festival bag decorating

DISCOVERY

Christmas Story Cover and book page

WRITING

Christmas bag decorating

ABC CENTER

Word sort for at and an words.

ART FUN

Nativity Scene

EXTRA FUN

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

Religion



We continue to work on our Christmas story book by coloring a picture of Joseph as well as designing a front cover. We have also continued to discover a variety of Jesse Tree symbols. Each day we read an Advent reflection discussing ways to prepare our hearts for Christmas. The children also created a beautiful nativity scene that is hanging in our room. The Bishop visited our classroom on Wednesday and we sang the Hail Mary for him and our Santa Poem. They impressed him with different facts from around the world. Our Christmas prayer service will be next Thursday in the church where we will celebrate as a school community. As usual, we discussed our Promise Magazine today.

Christmas Concert The concert is Next Wednesday, December 20 in the MPR. Children should wear their Christmas best and not the school uniform. **We will meet in the classroom at 6:30** while we wait for the concert to begin. The concert begins at 7:00 and should last about an hour. Pick your child up in the classroom once the concert is over.

Bits and Pieces

Calendar Capers

When we get back from Christmas Vacation we will begin a unit about the seasons, months of the year and days of the weeks. If you have any materials you think will enhance our unit feel free to send them in.

Christmas Wishes

May God bless you and your families during this holiday season. I hope the birth of our Savior brings you great joy and that you carry this joy and love into the coming year. See you in 2024!

Happy New Year

School reopens on Wednesday, 1/3. We will celebrate the New Year with our First Thursday school Mass on 1/4. This is a half day with dismissal at **12:15**

