

KINDERGARTEN NEWSFLASH

September 30, 2010



Dear Kindergarten Families,

With the end of September here we have made it through our first full month of school! The students are into their routines and are growing accustomed to school. This week the following items were covered:

Literacy: Reading - We read the book - "Ginger" and "The Kissing Hand."
Phonics - Consonant /s/ beginning sound and the children made a Pocket Pal - "Seal."

Handwriting - "Ss"

Math: Chapter 2 - Concepts:

We learned to identify and describe spatial relationships: top, middle, bottom.

We learned to identify and describe spatial relationships: before, after, between.

We learned to compare and identify positions of objects, using inside and outside.

We learned to identify and extend patterns.

Religion: We made Guardian Angels for our Hall Bulletin Board to celebrate the Feast of the Guardian Angels which is this Saturday, October 2nd. We also learned that the beauty and wonder God created exists everywhere.

Science: Weather

Some reminders:

- Please remember to LABEL EVERYTHING in terms of your child's articles of clothing and check the lost and found table by the hall/cafeteria or in the office for missing items.
- This Friday, October 1st is First Friday Mass at 12:00 PM.
- Library Books are due on Thursdays. Your child can only check a book out if he/she returns one.
- October Scholastic Book Orders will be going home on Friday, October 1st and are due back to school on Friday, October 8th. Please make checks payable to Scholastic Book Clubs. (No cash)
- We are in need of Computer Volunteers to help us out on Fridays during Computer Class - 8:30 AM - 9:04 PM. If you can help out, please let us know!
- Photo Day Forms need to be sent in by next week. You can send it in early as well. (The photos days are scheduled for Wed. October 6th and Thurs. October 7th - more details to follow.)

Have a great weekend!

Ms. Cavanagh

KINDERGARTEN NEWSFLASH

October 7, 2010



Dear Kindergarten Families,

The Kindergarten is definitely in a groove now. We are in the process of completing Chapter 2 in Math and Unit 1 in Reading. I am very proud of everything that your children are accomplishing. They certainly deserve this extra long weekend!

Here are our academic highlights for the week:

Literacy: We reviewed the "m, r, and s" sounds in phonics and read Mama Provi and the Pot of Rice. It was a story about a little girl who was sick with the chicken pox and how her Grandmother bringing her some rice to help make her feel better. Lucy and her grandmother (Mama) lived in the same apartment building.

As Mama was going up from the first floor to the eighth floor where Lucy lived she met neighbors who traded mama some of her rice for their special foods. Lucy ended up with a nice mix of foods to eat. We have been working on making connections to our readings. These connections are usually the students' personal experiences, or relate to other stories they have read, etc. The students are also learning about main Characters and Characters of a story.

Math: Cont. of Chapter 2 - Concepts:

We learned to create and translate patterns.

We learned to model, describe, and extend growing patterns.

Religion: Chapter 3

We learned that God created animals and pets to be our friends.

We read about God's Book of Love to help the children learn a Bible story about God's love for animals.

Social Studies:

On Friday, October 8th, the children will be making a Christopher Columbus Project.

HOUSEKEEPING ITEMS:

- October Scholastic Book Orders are due this Friday, October 8th.
- Any extra practice at home writing the letters we have learned would be very beneficial! (Mm, Rr, and Ss)
- Since the weather is colder now, please make sure your child has a sweatshirt and coat for outside recess.
- Toys and Stuffed Animals are becoming a problem at school. The Stuffed during Rest Time are fine, but please do not send in any additional Stuffed Animals. The children will get an opportunity for Show N' Tell when they are the Star of the Week.
- The Star of the Week Program is attached with your child's assigned week.
- Library books are due every Thursday.
- The Book-in-the Bag Program will begin in early November.
- On most Friday afternoons we will be working with the fourth grade. (Fourth Grade Partners) Last Friday they did a "Weather" project together. They are also coming in this Friday to do another "Weather-related" project. The children are really enjoying it and we will continue this type of activity, because it is such an enriching experience for both the fourth graders and the kindergartners.

Enjoy your long weekend!

Ms. Cavanagh

KINDERGARTEN NEWSFLASH

October 7, 2010



Dear Kindergarten Families,

Wow! It is hard to believe that it is already mid-October. We have started learning some sight words and reading words from our classroom word wall. (m, r, s, b) The children are really enjoying singing the song - "*Who Let the Letters Out?*" which goes through the whole alphabet and all of the letter sounds. The children love to sing along with the CD on our alphabet rug.

We have also started reading some Halloween Stories this week. The children really enjoyed the story - Franklin's Halloween. We have also started our Halloween decorating in the classroom. There are cool pumpkin people, bats, and soon to be ghosts flying around our classroom.

This week the following items were covered:

Literacy: Reading - We read Mice Squeak, We Speak. The students loved reading the story back to us because most of it was making animal sounds!

Phonics - We learned the 'b' sound.

Pocket Pal - We made a Bear.

Handwriting - We learned how to write the "Bb."

Math: We have started Chapter 3 - Some new concepts that we learned:
We learned to make and identify equivalent sets of objects. (same number)
We learned to identify sets that have more items than other sets. (more)

Religion: We started Chapter 4 and learned that God creates and loves all people. Even though all people are different, God loves us all the same.

Social Studies: In honor of last week being National Fire Prevention Week, we had a real treat on Friday. Miss Sexton's brother, Patrick who is a volunteer firefighter in Ridgefield came in and talked to the Kindergarten and First Grade classes about Fire Safety.

Science: Bats. We read Bat Loves the Night and learned many interesting Bat Facts. Then we made our own flying bats.

Some important items:

- Our Star of the Week Program will begin next week.
- Snacks continue to be an issue. Please pack enough AM and PM snacks that your child likes to eat.

Have a great weekend!

Ms. Cavanagh

KINDERGARTEN NEWSFLASH

October 28, 2010



Dear Kindergarten Families,

The little Ghouls and Goblins in Kindergarten can hardly contain themselves for tomorrow's festivities! It is a Halloween Dress Down Day on Friday, October 29th where the students can wear black and orange clothing to school for \$1 fee, which is sponsored by the Saint Mary School Student Government.

For the Halloween Parade, the students should bring in their costumes to school in a separate bag labeled with his/her name on it. (no weapons, swords, etc.) We will start changing into our costumes at 12:15 PM to get ready for the K-2 Halloween Parade which will start at 12:45 PM. We will have our Halloween Party immediately following the Halloween Parade. The Halloween Party will include snacks, crafts, and a story.

Although we are in celebration mode, we covered the following in academics this week

Literacy: Unit 2 in Reading - We listened to No, No, Titus! and learned that Titus' important job on the Farm was to protect the animals. He was a good watchdog because he chased away a fox from the chicken coop and as a result the chickens were safe.

Phonics - We learned the short "a" sound at the beginning and in the middle of the word.

Grammar - Nouns in Sentences (people, places, and things).

Pocket Pal - We made an Alligator.

Comprehension - Recall and Retell

Handwriting - We learned how to write the "Aa."

Religion: Chapter 5. We learned that God created us and we are a gift from God. We learned that God's love makes us special and that God has given each of us special talents.

Science: We listened to Pumpkin, Pumpkin and learned about the Life Cycle of a Pumpkin from a seed to a grown pumpkin. We made our own "Pumpkin Seeds" Pocket (sequencing activity - 1-4) and with a pumpkin, we scooped out the seeds. Then, we each counted out 10 seeds by 1's and by 2's.

Social Studies: We started our Scholastic News and learned when to use Polite Words/Good Manners. We also learned about the things you see on an Apple Farm. (Orchard).

For fun, we made a Halloween Ghost Puppet and recited a cute ghost poem afterwards. We also learned the "Five Little Pumpkins" poem.

Some Important items:

- \$1 for Dress Down Day tomorrow - wear black and orange clothing.
- The Halloween Costumes should be brought in and NOT WORN to school. No weapons allowed. The children will be changing out of their costumes before they go home on Friday, so that their costumes are in good shape for Trick-or-Treating!
- Monday, November 1st is All Saints Day. We have $\frac{1}{2}$ day and will be attending 9:00 AM Mass.
- No School on Tuesday, November 2nd due to a Professional Development Day.
- First Friday Mass on Friday, November 5th at 12:00 PM.
- There are no formal report cards for the first quarter in Kindergarten. However, there will be conferences in November.
- The Book-in-the Bag Program will be starting next week.

- Starting next week, a monthly enrichment calendar will be sent home in addition to the regular homework (Mon. - Thurs.) Please note that this is additional homework that is **optional** and is being used as an enrichment activity to further expand what is being taught in class.

We hope to see you at the Halloween Parade. Happy Halloween!

Ms. Cavanagh

KINDERGARTEN NEWSFLASH

November 5, 2010



Dear Kindergarten Families,

November is a month full of many schedule changes and days off. It always goes by too fast. However, with that being said, it is an important month where we focus on being thankful. We have been talking with the students about what we are thankful for. We wrote what we are thankful for on a turkey feather for our Thanksgiving Turkey (Tom the Turkey) on our Classroom Bulletin Board in the Hallway. It looks great!

We also listened to a fish story for Letter "Ff" - Rainbow Fish and the Big Blue Whale and as a fun activity, we made our own Rainbow Fish and Ocean Background. We also wrote a sentence describing the fish that we made. They are now hanging in our classroom and are so colorful! We also listened to a very cute Thanksgiving Story - One Little, Two Little, Three Little, Pilgrims.

This week the following items were covered:

Literacy: Unit 2 in Reading - We listened to Raccoons and Ripe Corn. This story takes place in Autumn and the setting is on a farm, in a cornfield. At night, a mother raccoon and her kits (almost grown raccoons) sneak into the cornfield and all night long, they peel away the green husks and feast on corn. At sunrise, the raccoons hurry back into the woods. We enjoyed this story and talked about how Raccoons are active during the night and sleep during much of the day.

Phonics - We learned the consonant 'f' beginning sound.

Pocket Pal - We made a Farmer

Grammar - Action Words (verbs)

Comprehension - Story Elements (place and ending)

Handwriting - We learned how to write the "Ff"

Math: Cont. of Chapter 4 - Concepts:

We learned to count, recognize, represent, and name examples of zero.

We learned to count, recognize, represent, and name examples of numbers 0-5.

We learned to use logical reasoning to solve problems with numbers.

Religion: Cont. of Chapter 5. - Concepts:

We learned that Saints are special people who live God's love and that

All Saints' Day is a day to honor and appreciate all of the Saints.

We learned about 2 types of feelings: Happy and Sad. God knows when we feel happy and when we feel sad. God wants us to be happy, but loves us if we are happy or sad.

SOME IMPORTANT ITEMS:

- The Winter Uniform has started as of November 1st. Also, please have your child wear their school sweatpants (not shorts) on Gym Days.
- Please provide your children with warm outerwear for the playground, mittens, hats, etc. on cold days.
- Please note that there is no hurry with the book-in-the-bags.
- On $\frac{1}{2}$ days and days when we have Mass, I will not have time to read 1:1 with the children and their book-in-the-bags, like today.
- We are participating in a Veterans Day Assembly on Tuesday, November 9th at 9:00 AM. We are singing with the first graders.
- No School on Thursday, November 11th - Veterans Day.

God Bless!

Ms. Cavanagh

KINDERGARTEN NEWSFLASH

November 12, 2010



Dear Kindergarten Families,

It is hard to believe that next week is the middle of November. We have Parent/Teacher conferences next week and then Thanksgiving right around the corner! I look forward to seeing you next week at conferences to share with you all the wonderful things that your children are learning!

This week, we have been talking about what we are thankful to God for this Thanksgiving. We read: The First Thanksgiving and Arthur's Thanksgiving. We made Pilgrims (boy/girl) and they are hanging up in our classroom. We also made Necklaces for the Letter "Nn" and the children loved creating their own color patterns with the colored beads and stringing them together. We also covered the following items:

Literacy: Unit 2 in Reading - We read, Time to Sleep this week. It was about how the animals hibernate.

Reading - Recall and Retell

Phonics - The Consonant /n/ beginning and ending sound

Oral Language - Develop Vocabulary through listening and discussing

Pocket Pal - We made a Narwhal

Writing - What I Can Do (verbs)

Handwriting - "Nn"

Unit 2 - Sight/High-Frequency Words: a, can, I, the, at, am

Math: Cont. of Chapter 4.

We learned to use ordinal numbers from first to fifth to show positions. (1-5)

We learned to model, count, draw, write, and read numbers 0-5.

We learned to solve problems using skills and strategies.

We have just tested out of Chapter 4.

Religion: Cont. of Chapter 5.

We learned that all of our Talents are gifts from God.

Social Studies:

Veterans Day and its meaning; why we celebrate it.

The First Thanksgiving and its meaning; why we celebrate it.

Native Americans - For Letter "Nn" and in honor of Thanksgiving Day. We also made Teepees.

Bullying - We went to a Bullying Assembly and the children learned what Bullying means and how to handle themselves if ever in a Bullying situation at school.

Science:

We talked about what Hibernating means and made a Bear in a Cave (in winter) and talked about how a Cave is a type of Habitat for a Bear.

HOUSEKEEPING ITEMS:

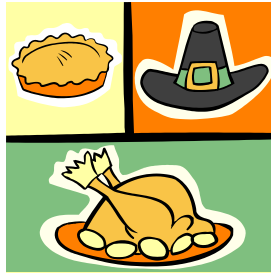
- Plastic Spoons are needed for both snacks and lunch.
- SMS Sweatshirts w/o names in them are becoming a problem. Please make sure your child's name is written on the tag of his/her sweatshirt.
- If you see "C.I.C" on your child's paper, it means "corrected in class" by your child. It's a great way to review work and clear up misunderstandings.
- Please note that I try to read the book-in-the-bags everyday, however some days there is not enough time. In that case, I will send the same book back to you for more practice. Thank you for your patience!
- Library Books are checked out for 2 weeks, so if your child forgets his/her book on Library Day, (Thurs.) he/she can keep it until the next week.
- $\frac{1}{2}$ days next Wed., Thurs., and Fri. for Parent-Teacher Conferences. Please pack a big snack; the children will be very hungry.

God Bless!

Ms. Cavanagh

KINDERGARTEN NEWSFLASH

November 18, 2010



Dear Kindergarten Families,

Wow... it is hard to believe Thanksgiving is fastly approaching! We have been continuing to talk about what we are thankful to God for this Thanksgiving. This week, we made a Thanksgiving Cross (decorated with Indian Corn) and Turkey Wreaths. They are hanging up and make our classroom look so colorful!

Literacy: Unit 2 in Reading - We read, Looking for Crabs this week. It was about a family who goes to the beach on vacation. The family goes looking for crabs, but do not find any at the beach. The crabs are hiding from the family in many different spots on the beach in the story. After a lot of crab searching, the family simply believes that there are no crabs at their beach!

Reading - Recall and Retell

Phonics - Skill Review, consonant sounds, m,r,s,b,t,a,f,n

Oral Language - Be a Polite Listener

Writing - Verbs in Sentences

Unit 2 - Sight/High-Frequency Words: a, can, I, the, at, am

Math: Chapter 5.

We learned to identify and describe circles and rectangles.

We learned to identify and describe squares and triangles.

We learned to identify and extend patterns with plane shapes in different positions.

We learned to identify symmetrical pictures.

Religion:

We made a Thanksgiving Cross and talked about what we are thankful for.

Social Studies:

Thanksgiving Day and its meaning.

HOUSEKEEPING ITEMS:

- Girls' make-up, lip gloss, etc. are not permitted at school. This has been a real problem. Please monitor what is in your child's backpack and leave these items at home.
- Please note that there will be no homework next week. This is due to the short week before Thanksgiving.
- The Thanksgiving Prayer Service (Prayer, Praise and Pie Service) will be held in the school hall on **Wednesday, November 24th at 9:00 AM**. Everyone is welcome!
- Prayer, Praise and Pie Service: **DRESS UNIFORM IS REQUIRED. Please have the boys wear (or bring in) a pair of white high tube/crew socks so that we can tuck their pants in the socks.** The kindergarten class will be dressing as Pilgrims. The costumes are made in class. Two students' names were pulled to be readers at the ceremony. All kindergartners will be singing a song at the beginning of the ceremony. If your child will not be here on Wednesday, please let me know ASAP.
- You are welcome to come to the classroom after the Prayer, Praise and Pie Service. We will be having a quick little reception due to the $\frac{1}{2}$ day; early dismissal. We will be serving pie and goodies. If you do come to our classroom you may want to take your child at dismissal, so please send in a note that morning.

Thank you and God Bless!

Ms. Cavanagh

KINDERGARTEN NEWSFLASH

November 23, 2010



Dear Kindergarten Families,

With 2 more days until Thanksgiving, we are busier than ever! Due to the short week, we did not begin any new concepts and skills. However, this is a great week to review many of the items we have learned thus far. With that being said, we will not have homework this week. It's a holiday week, and without homework it will give you a chance to focus on reading Thanksgiving stories, preparing for our thankful Thanksgiving Day, and enjoying the time with family.

This week, we read Give Thanks to the LORD. We then made Turkey Headbands and wrote 3 things that we are thankful for this Thanksgiving, one on each feather of the headband. We also made a Turkey from our own Handprint. In Math, we learned about equal parts (shapes) and halves. We also did a Turkey Symmetry Project with paints. In Religion, we learned that Thanksgiving is a time to remember God and give thanks.

REMINDERS:

- Wednesday, dress uniform is required. Please have the boys wear (or bring in) a pair of white high tube/crew socks so that we can tuck their pants in to make breeches.
- You are welcome to come to the classroom after the Prayer, Praise and Pie Service, (which begins at 9:00 AM); it will be a quick little reception due to the $\frac{1}{2}$ day; early dismissal. If you do come to our classroom you may want to take your child at dismissal, so please send in a note.
- Book-in-the-Bags. You may keep these books over the Thanksgiving Holiday. There will be no time to read tomorrow due to the $\frac{1}{2}$ day.
- There will be no lunch tomorrow, but please pack a morning snack.

Thank you! Happy Thanksgiving!

Ms. Cavanagh

KINDERGARTEN NEWSFLASH

December 2, 2010



Dear Kindergarten Families,

As we begin our first week of Advent, we have been discussing the importance and significance of the Advent Season and the Advent Wreath. We learned that Advent is a period of time during which we wait for the birth of Jesus. The round shape of the green wreath stands for God's never-ending love for all people. Each student has his/her own wreath hanging in the classroom, so that they can glue on a candle to count down the weeks until Christmas. We have also made an Advent Banner to celebrate the season.

In class for fun, we made a countdown to Christmas Santa Calendar and Read: The Elf on the Shelf, which is a story about a little elf who watches children for Santa. We have our own classroom elf that will travel back and forth to the North Pole to report students' behavior to Santa.

This week the following items were covered:

Literacy: Unit 3 in Reading - Lilly's Purple Plastic Purse was our reading story this week. It was a fun story for the boys and girls. It had to do with a little girl mouse who just couldn't control her excitement about her new purple plastic purse and its contents and how she disturbed the class trying to show it off. However, then the teacher took it away. So she got really mad and drew a mean picture of her teacher only to find that he understood her excitement about the purse and did give it back to her at the end of the school day. Lilly was then remorseful.

Reading - Cause and Effect

Phonics - Consonant "Pp"

Oral Language - Vocabulary

Writing - Complete Sentences

Handwriting - "Pp"

Math: Chapter 5 Cont.

We learned to use pictures to solve real-world problems.

We learned to predict and record outcomes of activities dependent on chance.

We reviewed plane shapes (circle, triangle, square, and rectangle).

We have just tested out of Chapter 5.

Religion:

We made an Advent Wreath and Banner so that we can appreciate that Advent is a special time to wait for the coming of Jesus.

Some important items:

- A special thank you to Mrs. Bruce and Mrs. Martin for a great Prayer, Praise and Pie Celebration party last week. Also, thank you to everyone who brought in pies and goodies for the party. The children loved them!
- First Friday Mass is tomorrow. Friday, December 3rd at 12:00 PM. Full Dress Uniforms.
- Next Wednesday, December 8th is a $\frac{1}{2}$ day of school for the Immaculate Conception. We will go to 9:00 AM Mass. Full Dress Uniform is required. Please have your child wear his/her sneakers to school as it is also a Gym day.
- No lunch served on Wednesday, December 8th, so please pack a hearty snack and drink.

God Bless and have a great weekend!

Ms. Cavanagh

KINDERGARTEN NEWSFLASH

December 10, 2010



Dear Kindergarten Families,

It is that time of year when the pure spirit and joy of being a child is magnified. The kindergarten atmosphere is buzzing with excitement that is hardly containable!

However, with that being said here's what we managed to cover this week:

In class for fun, we Read: The First Snowfall, Twelve Days of Christmas and Arthur's Christmas. We made Snowmen and Red Stockings w/Snowmen on them. They are both hanging up in our classroom and look very festive for Christmas!

Literacy: Unit 3 in Reading - Where's the Fly? was our reading story this week. It is about a fly sitting upon a dog's nose, in a flower bed, against a house, and in the yard to explain how smaller parts of a neighborhood are connected to form one large neighborhood we call Earth.

Reading - Using illustrations

Phonics - Short a

Oral Language - Retell a Message

Writing - Telling Sentences

Unit 3 - Sight/High-Frequency Words: like, big, it, is, in, but

Math: Chapter 6.

We learned to sort three-dimensional shapes.

We learned to identify and describe geometric solids. (sphere, cone, cube, cylinder, rectangular prism)

We learned to match the surfaces of three-dimensional shapes to plane shapes. (sphere, cone, cube, cylinder, rectangular prism)

Religion:

We learned that God created our Five Senses and they are gifts from God.

We thank God for our Five Senses.

We learned that God made us all different and there is no one in the whole world exactly like you.

We made a Christmas Manger Project. (Nativity)

Some important items:

- Thank you very much for our new Classroom Books from the Book Fair - we love them!
- Winter Clothing - Please have your child wear Coats, Hats, Mittens or Gloves and Tights (for the girls) to School. It is very cold outside!!
- The Christmas Pageant is next Wednesday, December 15th at 7:00 PM. **We ask you to drop-off your child in the kindergarten classroom at 6:30 PM.** Your child will be wearing Navy Choir Robes which we will be sending home to you next week. Under the Robes, your child can wear Christmas, Red, Green or White Turtlenecks w/ Navy or Black Slacks, Skirts, etc. No jeans.) Please wear school dress shoes - (merrells for boys; no sneakers.)
- We need a lot of practice with our song, *The Little Drummer Boy*. Please practice at home.
- If your child will not be here for the Christmas Pageant or Christmas Week, please let us know.
- The Christmas Fair and Tag Sale (4th Grade) is on Thursday, December 16th. Please send your child in with a bag of change on this day, so they can purchase Christmas presents for loved ones. This will also be a **Dress-Down Day!**
- The last day for Homework will be next Tuesday, December 14th. (note to follow on Monday).

- I will continue the Book-in-the-Bag program next week; however I will suspend reading with the children from next Thursday, December 16th until we return to school on January 3rd.
- Library Books are due back next Thursday. Next week, there will be no check out due to Christmas Vacation.

God Bless!

Ms. Cavanagh

KINDERGARTEN NEWSFLASH

December 17, 2010



Dear Kindergarten Families,

The children did a fantastic job on Wednesday Night at the Christmas Pageant and Concert. We are blessed at Saint Mary to be able to teach and model keeping Christ in Christmas throughout this wonderful holiday season.

Our academic week incorporated the following:

In class for fun, we Read: Arthur's Perfect Christmas and Olive, the Other Reindeer. We made Christmas Ornaments: Christmas Trees, Snowmen, Penguins and Polar Bears.

Literacy: Unit 3 in Reading - Maxi, the Hero was our reading story this week. It is a story about a taxi driver named Jim who has a dog named Maxi. Maxi becomes a hero by catching a thief who stole a purse. His picture and story appear in the newspaper. Jim is very proud of Maxi and pleased to be his owner.

Reading - Cause and Effect

Phonics - Consonant "Hh"

Oral Language - Making announcements

Writing - Capital letters and periods

Unit 3 - Sight/High-Frequency Words: like, big, it, is, in, but

Math: Cont. of Chapter 6

We learned to combine and separate parts used in making a whole object.

We learned to count, compare, and graph solid shapes.

We reviewed solid shapes: sphere, cone, cube, cylinder, and rectangular prism

We have just tested out of Chapter 6.

Religion:

We learned that God gave us our families who love us and we are very thankful.

We read the Nativity story and made a Nativity scene.

We learned that Christmas celebrates the birth of Jesus.

Some important items:

- There will be no Homework or Book-in-the-Bag until the New Year!
- Our Christmas Party is scheduled for Wednesday, December 22nd at 1:00 PM in the classroom. (Party Helpers will arrive to set-up between 12:30-12:45 PM).
- We will be going to Church for a Rosary and Benediction Mass to celebrate the Christmas Season on Thursday, December 23rd at 9:00 AM. Full Dress Uniform is required. There will be no Gym class on this day. This is also $\frac{1}{2}$ day and the last day before our Christmas Vacation.

Many blessings!

Ms. Cavanagh

KINDERGARTEN NEWSFLASH

December 22, 2010



Dear Kindergarten Families,

Well, it is hard to believe that tomorrow is our last day before Christmas Vacation. I wanted to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Have a wonderful Christmas Vacation and we will see you on Monday, January 3rd.

This week the following items were covered:

Literacy: We Read: The Polar Express and Elf and the City. After we read, The Polar Express, the students completed a story recall paper where they had to identify the pictures that were seen on the train and at the North Pole. We also saw "The Polar Express" movie and the children loved it.

The students also enjoyed an "Elf on the Shelf" activity paper where they had to find and count all of the hidden elf hats in the Christmas tree. We also started our "Winter Words" Writing Folder where they students wrote a sentence about winter or about a winter activity that they like to do.

Math: We have started Chapter 7 - Some new concepts that we learned: We learned to identify 6, 7, and 8 in many different arrangements: count, recognize, represent, and name 6, 7, and 8.

Religion:

We heard the Christmas Story and learned to appreciate the feast of Christmas.

We Read: The Donkey's Christmas Song. (a Nativity story)

We made our own Nativity set with a stable and figures: Mary, Joseph, Baby Jesus, a Shepherd, the 3 Wise Men, and the Angel Gabriel.

Social Studies: We continued our Scholastic News and learned that it is very important to honor and thank our veterans for protecting us and our country. We also learned how other countries celebrate certain holidays.

Just a couple of reminders for tomorrow:

- We will be going to Church for a Rosary and Benediction Mass to celebrate the Christmas Season on Thursday, December 23rd at 9:00 AM. Full Dress Uniform is required. There will be no Gym class on this day. This is also $\frac{1}{2}$ day and the last day before our Christmas Vacation.
- There will be no lunch served on Thursday, December 23rd, so please pack a hearty snack and drink.

Merry Christmas!

Ms. Cavanagh

KINDERGARTEN NEWSFLASH

January 7, 2011



Dear Kindergarten Families,

It's a great start to the New Year 2011! The kindergarten students have settled back into our school routine after the Christmas Vacation. This is an exciting time of the year when the students really start to blossom.

This week, I have been completing report card assessments. This will also be continuing next week. The kindergarten students will receive their first report card for the 2nd quarter at the end of January. We are very lucky to have Joann Seavey helping us out in class at this busy time. The students are really enjoying her and it is wonderful to have her help in kindergarten. The Book-in-the-Bag Program is going very well and the students are really enjoying it. Thank you for your help with this!

Our academic week incorporated the following:

We have been talking about the Winter Season. In class for fun, we Read: Snow Family and Snow is Falling. The students made snowflakes and glued on snowmen foam pieces for our Hall Bulletin Board. They also made their own snowmen project. They really enjoyed making them!

Literacy: Unit 3 in Reading - We listened to: Shoes Like Miss Alice's, which is a story about a little girl who is sad when her mother leaves her with a new sitter, but the time passes quickly when Miss Alice puts on her dancing shoes, walking shoes, napping shoes and no shoes!

Reading - Compare and Contrast (alike and different)

Phonics - Consonant "Gg"

Oral Language - Vocabulary and Make Introductions

Writing - Questions (who, what, where, when, why)

Handwriting - "Gg"

Unit 3 - Sight/High-Frequency Words: like, big, it, is, in, but

Math: Cont. of Chapter 7.

We learned to count, recognize, represent, and name 9, 10 and 11.

We learned to solve problems using simple number patterns.

Religion:

We learned that our families take care of us and give us God's love.

We learned to thank God for our friends.

We learned what it really means to be a good friend to someone.

We learned that God wants us to be good friends.

Some important items:

- If Friday, January 7th ends up being an Early Dismissal or No School due to the snow, we will be going to First Friday Mass on Monday, January 10th at 12:00 PM. Full Dress Uniform is required. (No Book-in-the-Bag Program)
- We will be starting our Math Packet Folders next week. The students will start on them after they have completed our regular assigned morning work.
- **PHOTOS NEEDED:** Please send in 5-6 photos that include your child and some that include your family on Tuesday, January 11th in an envelope labeled w/ your child's name on it. These photos are needed for a special writing activity on Wednesday, January 12th. Thank you!

Have a wonderful weekend!

Ms. Cavanagh

