



## Kinder News

January 6, 2012

WELCOME BACK AND HAPPY NEW YEAR!

### Religion

This week we discussed the Epiphany and grew our understanding that the Birth of Christ is a gift from God. We took time during our prayer circle to share a gift that we could give to Jesus. Some of us said...to be kind, help a brother or sister, or be obedient to our parents. Ask your child what they could give to Jesus.

We also began discussing the mission of Christ on earth and how Jesus is our teacher. We will continue to explore the teachings of Jesus through scripture next week.

### Literacy

This week we talked about New Year Resolutions. The students came up with a list of things to do this year so that they are healthy, kind and helpful.

Each student wrote down a goal and decorated a fancy hat. These are displayed in the hallway.

The students also wrote a response to *Winter is when...* this was a little difficult because of the warm temperatures this week, but it was a great way to get excited for the cold and snow to come!

Next week, we will focus on the author and illustrator Tomie de paola.

## Math

We started a unit on money in math. We have introduced the penny and nickel. Money is a difficult concept for many kindergarteners. It is easy to reinforce this skill at home using real coins and various amounts of money. See if your child can name the penny, nickel and dime and tell you how much each coin is worth. Also, don't forget to reinforce counting on. For example: 18 (one dime and 8 pennies-your child should count 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18). Extra practice with counting by fives will also greatly benefit your child as well. We will continue to work with money next week as well.

## Science

We read a great book this week called What is a Scientist? We looked things that scientist do and found out that we do those things too. Scientist ask questions, observe, try and try again, use their senses, and so much more! This week we also started to learn about how things move. We observed objects around our room and noticed how they move, how we

control the speed, and how we control the direction they move. Next week we will continue this concept.

## Recess

If you would like to join us for recess from 9:50-10:10, please feel free! We would love to have two volunteers each day and many of the days there is only one adult signed up. The volunteer schedule is also on the website.

## Author Visit

In the afternoon, on February 2nd we will have a children's poetry writer, Kenn Nesbitt come for an in-person author visit. His performance will include poetry writing and tons of funny poems. After the performance he will have an autographing session. He will autograph one book per child. If you are interested in ordering a book(s) we have attached an order form. There are many books to choose. In class, we will be reading More Bears, which is one that we recommend for kindergarten. We will also have some activities from poems in The Aliens Have Landed at Our School and When the Teacher Isn't Looking. This is a great opportunity for your child to get a book signed by an author they meet! Please have order forms and checks turned in by Monday, Jan. 9<sup>th</sup>

For more information about Kenn Nesbitt please visit [www.poetry4kids.com](http://www.poetry4kids.com)

## Looking Ahead...

Friday 1/13 — Mission Jean's Day

Monday 1/16 — No School: Professional Development

Tuesday 1/24 — Spirit Wear

Sunday 1/29 — Catholic School Week Open House:

12:15 — 2:00