



November 18, 2011

Religion

We have been talking about our call to take care of God's World, to be stewards of the earth. As children of God, and as citizens, God expects us to care for all of his creation. We are also reminded of the many blessing that God has given us as well!

Reading

This week has been full of fun Thanksgiving activities. We have read many Thanksgiving books and made some pretty special turkeys. The focus of many of the activities was listening to the beginning sound in our names and coming up with things we are thankful for that begin with the same sound. We have also been doing a lot of writing this week. At conferences, we will be sharing your child's 1st trimester reflection. This will tell you their favorite parts of their day, what they like learning about, strength and a weakness.

Math

We have continued to work on numbers, focusing on the teen numbers. We have focused both on writing them and one-to-one correspondence. We also began to look at adding numbers together. We have introduced the idea of counting on. You can practice this at home by giving your child a number and asking them to count on 1 or 2 more.

Social Studies

This week the kindergartners have started to study the first Thanksgiving. We compared things that the Pilgrims were thankful for and things we are thankful for. We found that some things are the same and some are different. We also learned

what the Pilgrims had at their Thanksgiving feast. The kindergartners shared some family traditions from your home. We can't wait for Thanksgiving!

Progress Reports

Please look for your child's progress report to be in their folder **FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 18th**. Our progress reports are standards based, meaning we are assessing the same standards and benchmarks the Diocese of Des Moines expects us to teach. Please note that not all of the standards and benchmarks have been taught, therefore, not all will be assessed at this time. Areas assessed will change over the course of the year. On our website, you will also find a guide to our assessing. It will tell you the benchmark assessed, what materials we used to determine the grade, and our grading scale. As you look at progress reports, **please remember that we have only begun our school year**. We do not expect the kindergartners to have met each benchmark. A 2 (meaning progressing toward grade level expectation) is a perfectly acceptable score at this time. Through support at home and more instruction at school, we expect the students to meet the benchmark by the end of the school year. If you have questions regarding your child's progress report, please bring it with you to your conference.

We look forward to meeting with you at conferences next week! Just a reminder that our related arts teachers are also available during your conference time, you may stop in and visit them.

SPECIAL PASSES

Please remember that special out of uniform passes earned by your children, (Jeans Day, Athletic Wear) should not be redeemed on Mass Days.

Have a HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

This will be our last newsletter before Thanksgiving Break.

Mrs. Morris

Mrs. Crandell

Mrs. Howard