



Kinder News

December 16, 2011

Religion

We have discussed the ideas of waiting and preparing for Jesus. Many times we compared our preparation to having a guest visit our home. We have to be ready and we do special things to get ready for their visit. It has been so much fun to watch the enthusiasm of kids and share the miracle of Jesus' birth with them. We hope you have a very merry and meaningful Christmas!

Reading/Writing

We have been focusing on stretching words out and phoneme segmentation. Phoneme segmentation is the ability to break apart a word into individual sounds. An example would be play - p/l/a or mud - m/u/d. Through our Writer's Workshop we are reinforcing this concept. We ask the students to

first stretch the word out slowly. Then they write down the first sound. We ask them to reread what they have written down already and say the rest of the word slowly, listening for the next sound.

We've seen great progress in the kindergartners! Please continue to work on these concepts over the holiday break to keep these skills fresh!

Math

This week we took our math test on shapes and symmetry. This will be sent home with your child with an explanation of areas covered. We will now focus on measurement. We will look at non-standard units of measurement, such as paper clips and unifix cubes. The kindergartners will measure classroom objects using these non-standard units after estimating.

Social Studies

We have spent this week discussing Christmas around the world. We introduced the word traditions to the kindergartners. We discovered that some traditions are the same and others are very different from things we do in our homes. In Germany, families decorate gingerbread houses

and put up Christmas trees. The trees are often decorated with lights to remind us that Jesus came to be the light of the world. The star at the top is reminder of the one that shown bright in Bethlehem.

We learned about the Italian tradition of Befana visiting on Jan. 6th (Three Kings Day). Befana is searching for the Christ child and leaves sweets and presents for boys and girls.

In Mexico, we made poinsettias and learned about the reenactment of the nativity story called "Posada".

MERRY CHRISTMAS!

We wish you and your families a very merry and safe holiday season. We appreciate the partnership you provide. We feel very fortunate to have each and every family here at St. Francis. You make our school a wonderful place to be! We can't wait to see you all in 2012!

MERRY CHIRSTMAS,
Mrs. Morris

Mrs. Crandell
Mrs. Howard