



Kinder News

December 9, 2011

Religion

What a wonderful Advent season! It is so special to be able to celebrate and share Advent services, preparations, and discussions with the students. Please ask your child to explain the Advent wreath to you. Why is it shaped as a circle; what do the colors of the candles mean; why is the wreath evergreen etc. We've also discussed the fact that Christmas is Jesus' birthday and that Mary is the mother of Jesus.

Reading

We continue to plunge forward on our road to reading. Beginning, middle and ending letter sounds have been our focus. Please work with your child over break with this concept. Often times, the students can recite the letter sounds, but applying them tends to be a more challenging concept. Encourage your child to help you write a thank-you for all of his/her Christmas presents by writing the first, middle and last letter of each word in the thank you. At this point, we are not looking for correct spelling of words, rather we're looking for letter/sound matching. Its okay if the words are not all spelled correctly. Letter/sound matching is what we have been doing in our shared writing.

In January, we will be working on ending letter sounds as well. Over break, continue to work on reading and writing the Word Wall Words. A current list of these is located on the St. Francis web site. Our goal is that all students will be able to read and write 27 words by the end of the year.

Math

In Math we have been reviewing some basic concepts as well as working on 3D shapes. We have introduced these shapes and noticed how we often see them as everyday objects. We also listened to a number CD and had the students record the

numbers they heard. They would then have to record which number comes before and after.

Chapter 4 test will be coming home. Please notice that students do not miss a problem if the numbers are reversed, but this would be a great thing to practice at home!

Science

This week students continued to look at solids, liquids, and gases. Using filled balloons, students began to see what each feels like and considered how the molecules move. We finished this fun unit with root beer floats to visual these three types of matter. The ice cream was the solid, root beer was the liquid, and the fizz was the gas. YUM!

Winter Weather

As the cold winter temperatures continue, please send your child to school with the appropriate clothing. Many of our students wait outside in the car line before and after school. It is important that they have hats, gloves, and zipped up coats to stay warm while they wait for school to start or to be picked up. Please encourage your child to be independent when getting ready do go outside.

Enjoy the holiday season!

Mrs. Morris
Mrs. Crandell
Mrs. Howard