



## KI NDER NEWS January 15, 2010

### Religion

In religion this week, we read and discussed the bible story, Noah's Ark. The kindergartners have enjoyed the story and we've learned from Noah to follow God faithfully and trust in what He asks of us. Check out our ark next time you visit our classroom, we will keep it up for Catholic Schools open house.

### Reading

This week in reading we've been working hard at listening for beginning and ending sounds in words. We used a fun poem about some snowmen that were looking for their winter clothes. The students helped find the first sound or sounds of those words. We've also been talking about the story The Mitten by Jan Brett. It's a wonderful story about a little boy who loses his mitten and it becomes a home to many forest animals that needed to warm up. At the ABC Center, the students used pictures of the characters from The Mitten and matched their name to the picture. Using the first and last sounds helped them to solve the word. Way to go kindergarteners!

This week we read the wordless story, The Snowman. We love using this story to teach the students how to gain information from the illustrations. Even though we can not read the words, we can still clearly understand the storyline. It also coincides

perfectly with the recent winter weather! After reading the story, the students were asked to sequence the story. You will be seeing this activity come home this week. Ask your child to retell the story to you!

### Math

For the past few weeks, we have been focused on measurement. We looked at non-standard units of measurement, such as paper clips and unifix cubes. The kindergartners measured classroom objects using these non-standard units after estimating. The kindergartners have been looking at another way we measure this week. We have been focusing on weight and using a balance to discover and compare. We have introduced the ideas of "heavier" and "lighter". We also notice when we use the balance, the heavier side goes down. The kindergartners have really put those critical thinking skills to use!

We really enjoyed these hands-on activities! Next week we will start working with money. The students will learn fun songs to help them remember the value and name of the coins.

### Science

This week we finished looking at the way things move. We did some experiments with rolling and sliding objects. We discovered that objects need force for them to move! Some things need to be pushed while others are pulled.

### Outdoor Recess

As long as the weather stays warm enough we will be going outside for recess. Children must have boots and snow pants to play in the snow. Many students are bringing a pair of gloves for the AM recess and then another for PM recess, this is a great way to be sure they aren't wearing wet gloves out in the cold.

### Looking Ahead

Jan. 21<sup>st</sup> – Jeans Day

Jan. 22<sup>nd</sup> – All School Mass: Bishop Pates visits

Jan 31<sup>st</sup> – Catholic Schools Week Open House 12:15 – 2:15

Have a GREAT weekend!

Mrs. Morris, Mrs. Crandell, & Mrs. Howard