

KINDER NEWS



November 20, 2009

Religion

This week we are looking at the things God has created for us and recognize that we are entrusted to care for these things. We learned that we are all children of God and we all belong to God. He expects us to love others as He loves us. We feel very special that God has loved us enough to give us family and friends to enjoy. We are truly thankful!

Reading

This week has been full of fun Thanksgiving activities. We have read many Thanksgiving books and made some pretty special turkeys. We have also begun to talk about our weather changing. This week we made a book called Who Needs A Coat? We looked at some animals that will migrate, hibernate, or need a warm coat for the cold winter. The students enjoyed reading their books!

This week we also introduced the words **are** and **this** to our classes. These words will now be found on our word wall and the kindergartners will be expected to know these. Please reinforce these at home.

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 continued 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. We can't wait for Thanksgiving!

Centers

We are working very hard on our centers this week. In the **Math center** we are using shapes to build a present. This game encourages us to use our spatial skills. In the **ABC center** we were given the letters Aa, Tt, Mm, Ss, and Pp and looking for pictures out of a magazine that began with that letter. In the **Art Center** we are making an Advent chain (these will be sent home next Tuesday). In the **Writing** we are making a list of things we are thankful for. Wow! Our centers next week will be busy as well. Watch for these projects to come home!

Progress Reports

Please look for your child's progress report to be in their folder **TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 24th**. 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. Please let us know if you have any additional questions!

FYI

We are making Advent links at the Art Center. The students are instructed to take one link off every night in waiting for Christmas. These will come home before Thanksgiving break. Please begin to remove the links on November 29th. Thank you and enjoy!

Have a HAPPY THANKSGIVING! This will be our last newsletter before Thanksgiving Break.

Mrs. Morris
Mrs. Crandell
Mrs. Howard