



Kinder News

December 4, 2009

New Student

We would like to welcome Matt, Megan and Carly Pimentel to Saint Francis. Carly has joined Mrs. Crandell's kindergarten class. They have recently moved from California. Please feel free to welcome our new family. Their email address is mattmegcarly@yahoo.com

Religion

In Religion this week we have continued to discuss the season of Advent and how we can prepare our hearts for the coming of Jesus. We discussed ways that we can be more like Jesus during Advent. We also talked about the Feast of St. Nicholas. The students illustrated a shoe that we will leave out over the weekend to see if he visits us! We discussed that St. Nicholas was known for his acts of kindness and gave people things that they needed, not the things that they wanted.

Reading

We completed some fun winter phonemic awareness activities. The focus of these activities was on syllable counting and beginning sounds.

We continue to work on "best guess" spelling and stretching out individual sounds in words. We also looked at sounds families (-at: hat,

bat, cat –op: top, pop, mop –ake: bake, lake, cake. On Thursday we practiced the skill of sound manipulation and turned ourselves into elves! Each child changed the first sound of their name to create three elf names (Sarah – ex. Barah, Varah, Marah). The students had a blast with this activity. Look for it to come home and ask your child to share this with you!

Social Studies

We have begun learning about holiday traditions. We had Ms. Joslin come to our classes this week and share some Christmas traditions from Europe. We learned about the symbolism of the Christmas tree and where that tradition began. We also tried ginger cookies which are a Swedish tradition. They were very excited to learn!

Math

We work with numbers up to twelve. We have continued to work on developing a number sense through sorting numbers, recognizing patterns, and understanding more and less. Our focus moved to estimation this week. We learned that estimation is a best guess and doesn't always have to be correct, but we hope that it is close. This is an important skill to build number sense.

Centers

Writing Center

We continue to work on Handwriting Without Tears. We are making nice progress. We hope to finish the capital letters soon and will be able to begin work on lowercase letters. We used "phonetic spelling" to add toys to Santa's Sack this week. We are beginning to hear beginning, middle and ending sounds. It is exciting! You can help your

child hear individual sounds in words by stretching out the words like a rubber band.

ABC Center

We made the Is Book. It helps reinforce some of the Word Wall Words as well as color words. Next week we will practice reading and writing our Word Wall Words.

Math Center

Our Math Center activity focused on one-to-one correspondence with numbers 11-20. The students were place the correct number of ornaments a give Christmas tree. It was great counting practice for all!

WE NEED YOUR HELP!!

We will be introducing 3D shapes in math next week. The shapes the students should be able to recognize are sphere, cube and cylinder. During math next week they will be creating a sculpture using materials that are those shapes. **WE NEED YOUR HELP! PLEASE HAVE YOUR CHILD BRING IN A VARIETY OF BOXES (CUBES), TISSUE AND PAPER TOWEL ROLLS (CYLINDERS), BALLOON OR STRAFOAM BALL (SPHERE).** You may send these to school with your child starting Monday. Thank you in advance!

Have a wonderful weekend!

Mrs. Morris
Mrs. Crandell
Mrs. Howard