December News

Hello Parents,

I hope everyone enjoyed a restful and happy Thanksgiving break. It was so nice to meet and talk with you all at conferences. Here are some interesting things going on in first grade…

This week we will start discussing and learning about St Nicholas. We will make “shoes” to leave out for St. Nicholas Day. We also started discussing our next service projects of the year. First, Second and Third grades are planning to make Christmas placemats for the PADS holiday meals. In addition to our beautiful placemats, we will try to collect bags of cookies for their holiday meal. More information about how you can help went home today in your student’s green folder. To celebrate the conclusion of this important service project we will have a PJ and movie day on Monday December 17th with kindergarten. (See more details below.)

Last month in reading we began decoding and read words with long vowel sounds. We will get through Superkids Unit 7 and start Unit 8 before Christmas break. We will continue to use our writing skills and traits every day in some way. Last week we wrote our first Diocesan Narrative Writing Assessment. Look for these to be posted to Seesaw in the next couple of days. We also have some fun Christmas themed writing projects coming soon!

In math, we are working in Chapter 4 which deals with strategies used for subtraction up to 20. We will start working with Place Value very soon. Can you believe we are already at the 66th day of school? We continue to count the days every day at the beginning of math class. There will be a BIG 100th Day celebration coming in February!!!

In science, we are concluding our unit and discussions about sound energy. We will start talking about light energy next. The First Graders LOVE using “Mystery Science” activities to enhance our learning. In social studies we will continue to use our Studies Weekly magazines to read and discuss curriculum and standards.

In Religion class, students will be talking about St. Nicholas and working on some special activities. We will also be counting down the days until Christmas on an Advent calendar. We are concluding our discussions about the Holy Family this week. They will also be discussing the Christmas Story and working on some fun projects too! In second quarter we test on the Our Father prayer.

So many fun Christmas events coming up…

Santa’s Workshop: We are scheduled to shop on Thursday December 6th. We are scheduled to shop in the morning. Please do not send in money early. Please send whatever you would like your student to spend on Thursday with a list of who they should be shopping for. This makes it much easier for the “Elves” to help us shop.

Field Trip: Kindergarten, 1st, 2nd and 3rd grades will be going to see a Christmas play at the Tivoli Theater on December 7th. Please remember students should be in uniform for this field trip. We will eat lunch at school as usual when we return.

Pajama Day: A special tradition for primary grades during the Christmas season! Students in Pre-School through 3rd grade will get to wear PJ’s to school Monday December 17th. (Please have kids wear their PE shoes with PJ’s.) We will watch the movie, The Star. We will also enjoy some milk and Munchkins during the movie for a special treat!

Live Nativity: Thursday Dec. 20th.

First Grade Christmas Party: We will have a small party in our room on Friday Dec. 21st. Thank you to all who signed up at Curriculum Night to send in treats or plan and stay to make a craft with us. I sent reminders home in today’s green folders.

First Grade Book Exchange: On Thursday December 20th. we will have a Book Exchange in our classroom. I will send a flier with details home soon. This is a completely optional activity, but a very fun one!

As always, thank you so much for taking the time to read this lengthy newsletter. So much happening at school this holiday season! 😊

Have a joyful and blessed Advent and a Merry Christmas!!!

Mrs. Debbi Ryan