

KINDERGARTEN NEWS!



DECEMBER 18, 2009

WOW! THIS THIRD WEEK OF ADVENT WAS FABULOUS! HERE ARE A FEW OF THE VERY INTERESTING THINGS WE HAVE BEEN LEARNING...

RELIGION: We...

- Reviewed and discussed that the family of Jesus is called the Holy Family (Jesus, Mary, and Joseph)
- Discovered ways family members care for one another
- Celebrated that each of us is a child of God; and heard the Bible story, the "Annunciation" Luke 1:26-38, about the angel appearing to Mary announcing she will have a baby named Jesus

From Sunday's gospel reading, we learned that Sunday begins the fourth week of Advent, and heard the Bible story about Mary's visit with Elizabeth, who was also with child. We learned that Elizabeth, filled with the Holy Spirit, announced Mary as the Mother of the Lord.

MATH: We began Topic 7 on Subtraction and...

- Practiced stories about *separating*, *taking away*, and comparing groups
- Started to write *subtraction number sentences* using the *minus sign*
- Practiced finding *differences*

LANGUAGE ARTS: We...

- Heard the stories Little Quack, George Washington Visits, The Christmas Baby, Twas the Night Before Christmas, and Laura's Christmas Star, and sang the songs "I'm a Little Duckling," "Randi and Ron," "Celebration!," and "Oh, Dear! Oh, Dear!"
- Finished working with the words *duckling*, *pond*, *paddle*, *plunged*, *proud*, and *brave*, and began learning our new vocabulary words *celebration*, *sprinted*, *barn*, *blacksmith*, *arch*, and *soldier*
- Ended our discussion about the kinds of things we can do as we get older, and began talking about what we can learn from people who lived before us
- Continued learning about the concept of a story's *plot* (*what happens to characters at the beginning, middle, and end*), and reviewed and extended what we know about the concept of *cause and effect*

- Continued working on our high-frequency word recognition by identifying them in the stories *Pit Did!*, *See the Squirrel*, *Dad Did*, and *Pam at Bat*
- Continued blending sounds to make words
- Reviewed /b/ and /n/, and began working with the letter/sounds for Dd and Kk, and words that begin and end with /d/ and /k/
- Practiced writing the letter Dd and some of our high-frequency words

SCIENCE: We...

- Checked our cups of water to see how much water has evaporated
- Reviewed all the things we know about water
- Began our life sciences unit on animals and plants and discussed the different types of plants and animals that inhabit the earth

SOCIAL STUDIES: We...

- Talked more about maps and models, and finished our student pages for "How can we show a neighborhood?"
- Began talking about different people who work at school

Notes from your teachers:

- Please continue to have your child work over Christmas break on the words they have learned up to now: *I, am, the, little, to, a, have, is, see, at, we, my, like, are, look, He, for, in, it, she, and, play, with, and me*, and please add the word *can* to your child's set of flash cards.
- You will find your child's Math Topic 6 Test in his/her Friday envelope. Please feel free to have him/her complete the inside "Reteaching" portion for extra practice. There is no need to return it, as it is just for reinforcement of addition skills. Thank you!
- Your children did a beautiful job singing at the Christmas Program last night. Excellent work Kindergarten!
- **Schedule reminder:** School resumes on Monday, January 4, 2010, and it is a Minimum Day.

Have a very merry Christmas, a spectacular Christmas break, and a happy new year!



Sincerely,

~Miss O'Rourke and Miss Sullivan