Our Lady Queen of Peace School

418 Holly Ave

Madison WI 53711

Love in Every Word. Respect in Every Action. Confidence in Every Heart.

December 8, 2017

Dear Parents,

This week, we have continued our travelling around the world. We travel to two new countries. We went to Holland on Tuesday. In Holland, we learned about their customs. Holland’s patron saint is St. Nicholas who is a friendly bishop! St. Nicholas and his helper Black Pete deliver gifts and candy to the good boys and girl on the eve of December 5th. Guess what… we put our shoes out and St. Nicholas stopped by Queen of Peace and gave each of us a candy cane!

On Wednesday, we went Italy. In Italy, a witch named La Befana comes; she leaves presents and treats for the good boys and girls. The manager is very specials to the families in Italy. In Italy, the manager is called a crèche and precipio.

Look for a suitcase filled with projects about the countries we visited, and flags we colored, to come home at the end of our “Christmas Around the World” Unit. The children are anxious to share with you all they have learned about other traditions!

This week we also had so much fun learning about the Christmas traditions. Our Christmas Adventures included…

Centers:

At the ABC Center, we created a book called *I See Christmas*. This book is about the nativity. We created all the characters that were present at the birth of Jesus. We also worked on the sight words I, can, see and the. Ask your child to read their book to you!

At the 123 Center, we continued to work on graphing. We decorated a Christmas tree and put lights, stars, and ornaments on the tree and put presents under the tree. Then, we graphed how many of each item we had. We practiced writing the number words.

At the Art Center, we made a Christmas tree book (which is the Christmas Around the World project for Germany). We learned about different objects used to decorate trees. We made our own Christmas trees out of ice cream cones, frosting and skittles! Yum!

Other Activities:

We created angels for our nativity bulletin board!

We pretended to go back in time and we each brought a gift to baby Jesus on the night of his birth. Many friends brought baby Jesus a new blanket. We also had others giving the gifts of toys, food, a pacifier and a basket. The projects is up in the hallway – come check them out!

We worked on what is a need and what is a want. Things we need are food, water, clothes and our families and things want are toys, bikes, games, etc.

For journals, we wrote letters to Santa! We told him how good we have been and what we want for Christmas. We thanked him for the toys he makes and for making Christmas so special. I am going to keep the original letter for your child memory book but will send a copy home in a white envelope for you to see (it will be next week).

Superkids: We have learned about 8 of our Superkid friends. We just finished Icky. Icky loves to watch TV and pretend to act. We met our 9th Superkid friend but guess what? There are 3 new friends; their names are Tic, Tac and Toc. Ask your child about them.

Math: We started a new math concept – addition. To learn and practice addition facts, we are completing our bean flip packets. For bean flips, we receive 5 beans. Then, we shake the beans and dump them out. We look at how many beans we have of each color (red and white beans) and add the two numbers together to get the total of 5. We worked super hard on bean flips and had lots of fun!

We will be having low-key Christmas parties in our classrooms on Thursday, Dec. 21st. We will have a treat and, of course, ...... open presents! The children really seem to enjoy sharing a gift with a classmate at this party. Would you please send a wrapped, $3-$5 gift to school during the week of Dec. 4-11th ? This little gift should be suitable for a boy or girl. Please sign the card: To a Friend, from (your child's name). We will put all gifts in a grab bag and enjoy the surprise of a gift from a class friend. Ideas include a beanie boo type stuffed animal, coloring book/crayons, playdough, holiday game, book, etc.

**With Winter weather here – please make sure your child comes to school prepared to go outside every day. Coats that they can zip, boots, hats, mittens that they can put on themselves (ALL LABELED) and a LARGE REUSEABLE BAG ( LIKE A REUSEABLE GROCERY SHOPPING BAG) THAT ALL ITEMS CAN FIT INTO FOR STORAGE. Managing all of these items is a challenge for the children. The extra storage bag helps to avoid frustration and tears throughout the day.**

Upcoming Themes:

All of December: Advent, Christmas, & Christmas Around the World

Important Dates:

Dec. 11 – Gift for classmate due

Dec. 15 – K4 and K5 Advent Program will be held in the church 12:00 noon

Dec. 21 – Advent Prayer Service 10:45

Dec. 21 – Half Day – Early Dismissal at 11:30

Dec. 22-29 – No School – Christmas Break

January 3rd- School Resumes

January 5th- All School Mass/Church Attire

January 12th- Snowmen at Night Party- Wear your PJ’s to school

January 15th- No School

Center Helpers for December:

Grandma Moody – December 11th

Mrs. Morey – December 15th

Center Helpers for January:

Lessner – January 12th

Small – January 8th and 22nd

Adams – January 12th, 17th, 26th and Feb. 1st.

Looking For a Helper on Friday, December 15th

Still Looking For Center Helpers in January Center Times:

Monday, January 25th

Wednesday, January 3rd, 10th, 24th, & 31st

Thursday, January 11th & 18th

Friday, January 5th, 19th

On Friday, January 12th – I will need 3 to 4 parent helpers to help with our Snowman at Night Centers. The party will be from 9:00 to 10:15

Have a wonderful weekend!

Amanda Kiddoo