

Merry Christmas First Grade Weekly Communication Newsletter Dec. 15-19

First Grade is so excited about this very special week before Christmas break. Everyone is busily preparing for a school-wide musical production proclaiming the birth of Christ, our Lord. Students will be rehearsing to make their gift of this show to their parents just right...filled with love, joy and happiness. In Religion, students will prepare a retelling of the Christmas Story using props, music and a script. Reading from a script, dramatizing the idea and communicating the message through words, actions and music will extend their performance experience from the school-wide Christmas Show and integrate their knowledge, gifts and talents into one additional gift to their classroom community and parents. Students will synergize and create a memory to treasure. The 'Advent'ure continues as we celebrate a prayer service at the beginning and conclusion of this week together. The virtue for the month is joy. How exciting to light the third candle that symbolizes this virtue. Students are challenged to bring joy and the Good News to others. They must perform intentional acts of kindness and record the act on a post-it, which they will add them to a giant heart in the hallway. How wonderful to have a school full of heart and the love of Jesus. In Language Arts, students will investigate real reindeer, their appearance, behavior and homeland. The 6+1 Traits of Writing will be applied to their writing of a descriptive paragraph about reindeer as well as a fictional account of reindeer activity using sequencing words of first, next, then, and last. Let's see what kind of mischief their deer can get into as they visualize and describe their own reindeer pet! In Word Study, students will explore, build, treasure

hunt and mine for words using a key word or phrase. How many words can you make out of Santa Clause? Through the use of classroom and online resources, students will visit other countries in the world, including America, Italy, Mexico, Germany and Australia. SMARTboard technology creates a virtual reality for these students that makes cultures and traditions better understood and appreciated. In Spanish, students will focus on Christmas in Mexico in greater detail. Feliz Navidad.

In Math, the students will be examining place value by counting tens and ones, and applying this knowledge to all double-digit numbers. The students will also identify the closest tens group to a group of numbers and estimate the quantity. In Science, the students will examine water changing states, and list ways humans use water.

Merry Christmas to all! May Christ's love and peace be with you at Christmas and always!