

Kindergarten News

Fall is in the air and the crisp breezes are keeping us cool at recess. Please make sure to label your child's jackets, sweaters, and sweatshirts.

In Religion, we learned about the church year. We learned that at Mass we celebrate God's love all year long, but we have extra special celebrations at Easter and Christmas. We also learned about some of the special objects that we use in the celebration of the Mass.

This week we worked on the letter m. We are working hard on making sure we don't make "mountain" m's when we are making our capital m's. We also read If You Give a Mouse a Cookie and created our own versions of the story.

The children were introduced to our first five sight words. The children played games with the words to help them recognize them more readily. They also have practiced writing them and found them in some of the different things we have been reading. I hope that you take the time every week to write the words on flash cards that they can review throughout the year.

In Math, we have completed our chapter on solid and plane shapes and patterns. The children did a nice job on their test and you should have found a copy of the test in the Thursday envelope. We began our chapter on positions. The children are doing a nice job.

We are continuing to work on our color books. The children are having fun drawing as many things they can think of that are the color of the day.

This week was a very busy week of learning. The children learned about fire safety, fire trucks, and fire fighters. We learned that we should never play with lighters or matches and that if there is a fire we should "get out and stay out". They enjoyed making their own fire fighter hats.

We also learned about Christopher Columbus. We learned that it was very hard work to sail across the ocean and the sailors wanted to quit, but they didn't. We also made our own Santa Maria boats to remember Columbus.

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On Wednesday, the full-day children participated in a live webcast through Scholastic. The children got to learn about an amazing dolphin named Winter. To learn more about Winter's story and to play some fun games you can go to <http://www.winterstail.com/> or <http://www.scholastic.com/winterstail/?eml=TNL/20090930/TNL> to view the webcast.

A few weeks ago we began to have a "Choice Table", twice a week, as one of our stations as we work in the mornings. The "Choice Table" has a variety of activities, at different ability levels, related to our studies that the children may choose to complete independently. The children have the option to choose as many of the activities as they would like and may even save the activity for another day. You may have seen word searches and mini-books coming home incomplete. These were things the children chose to do at the "Choice Table" and then brought home. You can work with your child to complete these activities, but they do not need to be returned to school. The children have been enjoying the opportunity to choose what work they can complete and I have been very impressed at their enthusiasm and independence in this new activity.

Please continue to record the books you read with your child for Book-It. The forms are due by October 29. I hope that you and your child choose to participate and find it an enjoyable and rewarding experience. The more you read to your child the more they will learn and want to learn to read.

Please send in your 18 count cardboard egg cartons throughout the school year. I have a few educational games that I would like to make for each child. Thank you in advance.

Sight Words for this week: do, God, I, Jesus, and us.

Next Week: Letter R, Colors
Monday: No School Christopher Columbus Day
Tuesday: Bring in something that begins with R
Wednesday: Word Book Due (letter R)
Friday: No School Teacher Institute Day