

*All the News from the Second Grade Explorers
December 2020*



Dear Families:

We have begun the season of Advent. Along with our daily religion lessons, we will be doing many activities that focus on our preparation for Jesus coming as a baby. Each of the classrooms has decorated their prayer area in preparation for the day we see "The Star." The kids have learned the Act of Contrition, and practice prayers daily.

Our present math unit is called "Addition and Subtraction." The class will find the total value of combinations of coins, find different coin combinations that have the same total value, and make change. ***When there is a night without a Home Link, please review math facts with your child by playing math related games, using IXL.com or practicing flash cards.***

In social studies we have begun a unit called "Our Country Today." In this unit children will learn about levels of government and voting. The students will be able to formulate a survey. Each class will complete their own. We will collect data and compare the results.

In reading and language arts (My View) we have been working on r-controlled words and words that contain double consonants. ***Mrs. Fischer recommends at least 20 minutes of daily at-home reading in addition to the reading done at school to increase stamina.*** Children benefit greatly from being read to. We also have "Flashlight Friday" for independent reading. This can be done at home too.

The winter season is upon us now. Please dress your child appropriately for outdoor recess times. A warm jacket or coat, hat, mittens or gloves, snow pants and boots (when we have snow) are good clothing choices when the weather turns cold. It is also a good idea to send an extra pair of mittens or gloves, and sometimes socks and tennis shoes since these items tend to get

wet in the snow. Thank you very much. Remember a face covering and water bottle daily for school.

May the happiness of the season touch your hearts in so many wonderful ways. The children and I wish all of our families a very Merry Christmas and peace in the New Year.

Truly yours,

Mrs. Marijo Fischer

Conversation Starters for December:

- 1) What is the meaning of the word "Advent"? How are you preparing for Jesus' birth at home?
- 2) What is your favorite Christmas story? Read it to someone at home.
- 3) What kinds of stars or constellations can you see in the night sky? Share what you know with your family.
- 4) In which country is Saint Nicholas the patron saint? (Russia) What are some other names he goes by? If you can discover 3 more, besides Santa Claus, write them down on a piece of paper, and bring it to your teacher before December 18 for a surprise.
- 5) Teach your family what the words mercy, compassion, grace, and conscience mean.

ADVENT



