

Dear Parents,

Next week, we will already be in the second week of Advent. Our Advent wreath is up on our prayer table, a tree is on the door with their presents for Jesus, and we are slowly constructing the Nativity scene. For a part of our Advent time, we are doing "Countdown to Christmas". It is a 15 day devotional that incorporates scripture readings and building the Nativity. This week we added the Creche, palm tree, cow, Mary and Joseph. The children are also completing activities that correspond to the theme of the Advent wreath. This week, we talked about hope and the children are creating pictures that depict what hope is to them. Next week the focus will be on peace. Each child will be creating an ornament of peace to represent that week's theme.

It's time to start thinking about our Christmas Party. The Christmas party will be on Thursday, Dec. 16th in the afternoon. We will be having some festive food and drink for the party but it's always fun for the kids to open a present. To that end, we are having a "Book Exchange". Attached is a letter that gives more information about the party and book exchange. Please contact us if you have any questions.

This is a great time to participate in our Scrip program. I know at Christmas time I am always purchasing last minute gifts and gift cards are so convenient. An easy way to support the school at the same time you are Christmas shopping.

The annual appeal is off to a good start. We are halfway to our goal. As a staff, we all participate in whatever way we can and the goal for our school is the same. We were very successful last year with many donations from a large percentage of families. So far this year we have a small percentage of families who have participated. We would like to get 100% participation. Remember, we do great things together.

We began creating our presentations for our heritage project this week. Students had researched about their country and are now creating a google slideshow presentation or a digital book on Book Creator. They are all very excited and are eager to work on them. Students have a rubric and we hope to begin presenting these to the class beginning middle of next week. We will spend most of our afternoons on Monday and Tuesday working on them. Presentations will start Wednesday December 8th with students who are ready and continue for the rest of the week. And if necessary finish them on Monday December 13th. At the beginning of the week, we will set up when your child will be presenting so they know when their project needs to be completed. This will be written in their planner.

Have a wonderful weekend,

Susan Smith and Valerie Sheehan