St. Stephen's Lutheran School

Kinder News

Week of November 18th

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Our Learning

Last week was a very busy but fun week at school, with our Veteran's day program, dress-up days, the food drive, and other classroom activities too! On Friday, we had our guest reader Mrs. Nimmer come again. We also started preparations for our Christmas service. With so much going on, the children did a pretty good job of staying on task and staying in control!

Our class goal this last week was to practice our independence by 1) getting started right away, 2) keeping quiet during work time, and 3) saying "I can do it" and "I will try" for boring or difficult tasks. The kids did very well with this. They also realized that when you get started right away on a task, you have more time later on for the "fun" activities (brain breaks, choice time, etc.). Hopefully they remember that this week!

While teaching small group this last week, I was very impressed with how far these kiddos are coming with the reading and writing skills! Some kids are starting to read 3-4 letter words. Others are still practicing identifying letters or sounds, but are making progress!!

Here is what we learned this last week:

Bible: Parable of weeds/wheat, Jesus calms the storm Math: Identifying numbers, acting out stories to solve a problem, pennies to 10¢, telling time to the hour Handwriting: Ww, Xx, Kk, review of letters, ABC writing Life Skills: Self-Management: independence Social Studies: Our World: Where do we live? Science: Make Things Move: Tug-of-war, force terms Music: Practicing for church and Christmas service Phonics: SUPERKIDS - LI for Lily Heart Words: review of heart words learned so far PE: Cardio Tools: jump rope practice Art: Thanksgiving cards for church shut-ins Raider Rally: Veterans service on Monday Centers: Variety of activities in the following categories; pre-writing, writing, STEM, art, fine motor, technology, and small

group reading skills with Mrs. Barnett

May God bless your week!





November 17 @ 10 AM - Kindergarten sings in church November 26 - Turkey Day/Jump rope contest (2pm) November 27-29 - No School (Thanksgiving break)

Life Skills Practice

This week, we are transitioning away from selfmanagement to critical thinking and memory skills. Our focus for the week will be on strategies to improve these skills. We will practice using our memory when listening to directions. We will also practice recalling events and telling the truth.

Announcements & Reminders

Raider Rally - Friday, we will get together to play BINGO in raider groups. There will be small prizes for winners! Then, on Tuesday, November 26th, we will have our jump rope contest at 2 PM. The kindergarteners have already been hard at work practicing jump roping! Feel free to join us on that day, to watch! If you do come, enter through the church/school office and come up to the gym.

Advent Devotions – Pretty soon, an Advent devotion booklet will be sent home to your family. This resource was made by another WELS church, to encourage families to prepare for Jesus' birth together. The booklet comes with a short devotion for each day of December, and I encourage you to use it. It is made specifically to use with young children. To go with it, you can buy the "Melissa & Doug Countdown to Christmas Wooden Advent

> Calendar" for about \$20 and use it year after year! It is a great resource!

A Winter Weather Note

Greetings! As winter weather will be quickly approaching, here are just a few notes to keep in mind:

Each child <u>must</u> come to school with a warm winter <u>coat</u>, a <u>hat</u>, and <u>gloves/mittens</u> that are thick. Wet gloves are uncomfortable to wear, so water-resistant ones are the best option. Mittens are the easiest to put on at this age level, and they keep hands warmer, so consider getting your child waterproof mittens.

Once the snow sticks to the ground, **boots** and **snow pants** will also be necessary. Your child will <u>not</u> be allowed to walk or play in the snow without snow pants and boots. If they forget these items, they will still go outside to get fresh air but need to stay off the snow. We don't want them all wet all day! I would also recommend **sending a pair or two of extra socks** if your child gets wet from recess.

Please encourage your child at home to put their snow gear on by themselves. I understand that it may take longer for them to do it themselves, but they will develop independence this way.

At school, our routine will be:

- 1. Snow pants (if needed)
- 2. Coat
- 3. Zip coat -- This is important. Zip the coat before the gloves go on.
- 4. Hat and scarf
- 5. Boots (if needed, we put them on by the door)
- 6. Gloves





Snow pants and boots will stay for the week at school and then be sent home on Fridays. (If there is a day that looks promising for a snow day, I will try to send them home). **Send a cloth bag** for the items to be carried in, like a cloth shopping bag or something similar.

Lastly, snowball fights are fun, but please encourage your child not to throw snow at school.

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns about anything! God bless your week, Mrs. Barnett

















