

JANUARY NEWSLETTER

Dates to remember:

- January 11 - School Resumes in person
- January 14 - Spirit Day, PJ Day
- January 15th - President Day
- January 18 - NO SCHOOL - Martin Luther King Jr Birthday
- January 31 - State of The School Address

Happy New Year!

Welcome back to school and welcome 2021!

MATH: We continue with our calendar-based math, math work book and math journal. We will quickly complete our A2 workbook and move into a new chapter. We are currently reviewing numbers 1-10 and working to 20. Next we will study solid and flat shapes as well as shape patterns. We will add some new vocabulary in math as well: face, edge, and corners.

LITERACY: Last month, we introduced many new sight words; words that are used often in writing, and that the students will learn to identify by sight. Practicing these words at home can be helpful. Search for these words with your kids when you read: **the, me, for, is, it, and, see, new, big, on, he, of.** We will continue to practice these words in class and will also add to our list! Students will learn about vowel sounds and the sneaky e next. We will add to our sight word list: **let, now, up, have, has, she.** We will also learn about suffixes!

WRITING: The students continue working to become authors in our Writer's Workshop. This month we have been working on filling up the pages with illustrations, adding detail and lots of color. We are also adding detail to our writing as well. The students are working on sight words, adding them and spelling them correctly in stories. Invented spelling is still encouraged, though these new sight words are expected to be written correctly. We have been talking about the setting of the story, discussing characters, and retelling the sequence of stories we read together, now we will put these ideas to use in our writing too. We have been working on stories of personal narrative, as well as fun creative fiction, and we will now focus more on "how to".

SOCIAL STUDIES: This month, we will discuss Martin Luther King Jr as we celebrate his birthday! We will talk about the holiday and about his work towards equality and social justice. We will talk about President Day as well. We will continue to work on our classroom community and write our very own Kindergarten mission statement!

RELIGION: We will start the month discussing Epiphany, or the Day of The Three Kings (as they celebrate it in Spain). We will also talk about My Parish, Special Leaders of the Church, What Happens at Mass, and Family Celebrations.

ART: In Art this month, we will focus on the natural world around us! We will create snow and snowmen, using different messy modes of creating. We will work on several more directed drawings, giving the students the opportunity to follow directions, while adding in their own unique touches. This month, we will also work on VTS strategies, discussing what we see when we look at different pieces of art work.

SCIENCE: We will quickly finish up the Materials and Motion chapter in Mystery Science. Our next unit will be Weather Watching. What a great time to start observing our weather! I am planning to check out a few extra Winter Mysteries mini lessons as well. The kids really enjoy these lessons, asking any questions, and getting very excited to participate!

HOMEWORK: READ WITH YOUR CHILD AT LEAST 20 minutes a day! Talk with them about stories, character, settings, and other parts of the stories you read together. Don't forget to get outside, even during this cold time of year; nature refreshes and invigorated!

I don't often take many pictures at school, but here are a few from the week before our remote learning week and break. These crazy holiday clad kids enjoyed their STEM time building Christmas trees out of different materials!

