

Third Grade Highlights

Season's Greetings! The third graders have been working on bringing "light" into our classroom this advent season. We are trying each day to be a 'point of light' for others, by displaying our good character traits. Students who are chosen by Mrs. Wolf put their paper light bulb on our school bulletin board, and hang a small ornament on our class Christmas tree. We've also shared a wise saying on our calendar board:

And, during this dark season of December, we've learned about St. Lucia, the "Saint of Light". We will feature St. Lucy when we lead the school in our Advent Prayer Service next week. Students will each wear the proper clothing from this Scandinavian tradition--a white robe, with the boys wearing a "star boy" hat and the girls wearing a wreath of silver tinsel. Our St. Lucia will wear a wreath of greenery with candles

Also bringing this theme of brightness into our room is our physics study of light in science class for the next few weeks—it's special characteristics and its value in our lives.

Along with traditions, last week we read the last selection in our "Traditions" theme—a story about a Native American boy and the Pueblo Feast Day celebration. Students also enjoyed reading some Native American stories in our Book Club groups. To expand on the Indian tradition of pottery-making, each third grader made their own pinch pot from clay. We hope to fire and glaze them next week for a project the students can be proud of.

Students have thought about their own family traditions and used their ideas in learning how to write a paragraph with a main idea and details. It's been fun to hear about all the traditions that students have learned to look forward to through their years!

We have taken our first reading theme test this week—a three day process involving both reading, some critical thinking, and writing. Look for it next week in your child's folder. We will be ready to begin our next Theme, a fun one on "Incredible Stories", beginning with Dogzilla!

In math, students have been studying the concepts behind multiplication and learning the different ways to display it—with arrays, number sentences, drawings, equations, etc. We have been studying facts with 2's, 4's, and 5's this week. Any drill or practice you can provide at home would be most helpful!

This is such a busy time of year, we appreciate all you do to ensure that your child is rested and ready for school each day. This group certainly keeps us going, with their ideas, activity, and energy!

We pray daily for Mr. Bemmels and continue to wish him a speedy recovery. This group is quite the talented card-making class, and has always been ready to take time to make some beautiful cards for those in need of happy wishes.

Third grade report cards will be sent home sometime next week. Both Mr. Bemmels and I are happy with the students' academic progress and look forward to continued growth. As always, please contact us with any questions or concerns you may have.

Sincerely,

Karen Wolf