

Dear Families,

Just a few more days before our holiday break. We have a busy ten days ahead. We are working on recognizing characters in a book. I have several Santa books this week.

In math we continue to work on the concepts of "more" and "less". Students have learned how to organize the objects to help them compare. We are ready to take our end of unit assessment this week. Students need to count to 50 to be on grade level for this 2nd quarter report card. We practice counting everyday.

This Friday our PTO parents have planned a day of fun, games and activities for all students. Students are also allowed to wear pajamas. If they want to wear slippers that is fine but be sure to send regular shoes to travel to and from school safely and participate in recess. Feel free to join the fun.

Next Tuesday our class will visit the Santa Shop here at school. If your child is going to purchase gifts for family members please fill out the envelope I am sending home this week with the name, age and amount. We have PTO elves helping the children shop. If you have any questions about this please feel free to ask. Our class will go "shopping" Tuesday Morning afternoon.

Next week we have several activities planned. On Thursday, all three kindergarten classes will "travel around the world" to hear about different holiday traditions. Our class will visit Mrs. Hlad's and Mrs. Greenwood's rooms to hear about a tradition and do a craft. Then Thursday afternoon we will watch the Polar Express complete with popcorn and hot chocolate. Students are allowed to wear pajamas on Polar Express day. Please make sure they are appropriate for school. They can bring robes and slippers too.

I am trying to keep the next 2 weeks as "normal" as possible. We will do our regular morning routine then in the afternoon we will have fun centers.

I have decided to do our Christmas party next Friday Morning (December 20th). Parents are welcome to join in our morning activities. We will have 5 centers set up consisting of crafts and games. Please let me know if you are able to join in the fun. The more, the merrier. The party will run from 9:00 - 10:20. We have a school wide sing along starting at 10:30.

This week we are focusing on our social studies concept of "wants and needs". We will be reading many Christmas stories. We will meet the character of "Auntie Clause." She teaches us that it is much better to give than to receive. We are also working on retelling stories that are read in

sequence. I am doing many end of quarter assessments this week so students will not be bringing home nightly reading bags.

I have had a couple of parents phishing for Christmas ideas for me. Please know that I am blessed to have all that I need. If you wish to purchase a gift for our class, our classroom is in need of some new indoor recess games and puzzles. The winter weather is around the corner and several days each week we have indoor recess. These games and puzzles will keep the students entertained and out of trouble. Hot Wheel cars and big coloring books are also popular with students. If you would like a few suggestions or ideas, please let me know.

I am truly blessed to have such a great group of students. Please remember to let me know if you can make it to our Christmas party next Friday morning, December 20th. I try to have 1 or 2 parents helping out at each station. Have a great week and a Merry Christmas.

Anne Finn