

12/23/2022

Dear Parents,

We started the week learning about Kwanzaa, one of the holidays celebrated during the month of December. We talked and learned about the seven days of Kwanzaa, we introduced the sights, sounds, and traditions of this community holiday. Kwanzaa is an African-American holiday that celebrates history, culture, and customs, and it has its roots in an African harvest festival. Music and drums are part of the celebration, which includes dancing, feasting, and praying. Red, green, and black are the three colors associated with Kwanzaa. Red represents the struggles people have endured. Green stands for fairness and justice. Black represents the people themselves. They also celebrate with a "bendera", or a flag that is used during Kwanzaa that has three horizontal stripes of red, black, and green. The Kinara, or candle holder holds three red candles, three green candles and one black. For each of the seven days, one principle is celebrated-Unity, Control, Cooperation, Sharing, Purpose, Creativity, and Faith.

For small group/art we made a kinara with a brown triangle for the base of the candleholder and three green, one black, and three red stripes for the seven candles. They also used Kwanzaa colors to work in their journals. We also made a holiday card. We reviewed the letters and numbers and did free Art.

Books we read: The Seven Days of Kwanzaa, My First Kwanzaa, My Family Celebrates Kwanzaa.

This week we also had spirit week and the students participated with so much enthusiasm. They took pictures with Santa on Wednesday and sang holiday songs on Thursday. Thank you to everyone who came out to watch them. Pictures were posted throughout the week of the different activities on Brightwheel. Hope you enjoyed them.

Quote of the week: "The holiday season is a perfect time to reflect on our blessings and seek out ways to make life better for those around us"

We wanted to take this chance to thank you for all the gifts and well wishes. They are truly appreciated. We wish you all and your families joy, peace, and good health this Holiday Season. Wishing you all Happy Holidays and a Wonderful New Year!

Ms. Ana and Ms. Nadia

Ms. Marta and Ms. Laura