

Flight 4B News and Itinerary Week of December 3, 2018

Week 1 of Advent: Candle of Hope

*As individuals and as a community
we long for God's presence. We live
in the light of the hope he sends to us.*



*O God, as light comes from this candle,
may the blessing of Jesus Christ come to
us, warming our hearts and brightening
our way. May Christ our Savior bring life
into the darkness of this world, and to us,
as we wait for his coming.*

Advent Prayer

*God of Love,
Your son, Jesus, is your greatest gift to us.
He is a sign of your love.
Help us walk in that love during the weeks of Advent,
As we wait and prepare for his coming.
We pray in the name of Jesus, our Savior. Amen.*

*"Come people of Israel,
let us walk in the light of the Lord." (Isaiah 2:5)*

Calendar Updates/Reminders

Monday, Dec. 3 Advent Reconciliation

Tuesday, Dec. 18 Christmas Concert 6pm

Friday, Dec. 21 School Christmas Mass; Buddy Bingo;
Early Dismissal at noon

December 24th-January 1st Christmas Break

Welcome to our Advent celebration that begins on Sunday! As we prepare and count the days to the birth of our Savior, we hope that you will join us in prayer and activities that remind us of the reasons for this beautiful season! In the upcoming week we begin our journey to the Christ Child through our Advent lessons and preparations. Thursday also brings us our first Saint of the season, with the celebration of St. Nicholas. We will study about this kind and generous saint and the connection to our good deeds and kindness during the season.

We recently celebrated our many blessings from above; now is the perfect time to share with those who are in need. Mrs. Tokar will be coordinating our Adopt-a-Family; this is a schoolwide program where each class is given a family to help have a merrier Christmas than might otherwise be possible. It is always special to share with the children that on Christmas day there will be a family opening their gifts and knowing that someone cares! It has always been a tradition in my first and fourth grades that we create our own wrapping paper. It is a way for the children to be connected to the gift giving and it is heartwarming to watch their joy as they make the paper and then use it to wrap the gifts!

Creativity and dedication to make beautiful ornaments; a lot of Christmas spirit, and teamwork to decorate; and much appreciated hospitality from the Knights of Columbus staff, made for a wonderful experience for our crew! What better way to come back from spending a holiday with family and friends, then to begin preparations for the next holiday! Crafts, tree decorating, music, a tour through Poland at Christmastime, and of course a yummy snack made for a wonderful morning! The spirit and inspiration will continue as our crew prays, creates, and celebrates through Advent. The tree was absolutely beautiful, I am very proud of our crew, not only in their hard work, but also in their respectful and polite behavior during the trip!



December Gospel Value: Community
December Catholic Virtue: Generosity

It is an exciting time of the year and our goal is to help the children stay on task and focused while enjoying all the holiday spirit that is around. We will focus on Advent and all the wonderful lessons that can be shared to help us count down to Christmas! Children love to share and this a perfect season to have them share with each other and we look forward to having them bring stories of their holiday preparations and traditions into our lessons.

Our little buddies will be joining us for some Advent activities; and they have invited us to their gingerbread house decorating party and their Christmas concert, so we have a lot to look forward to sharing with them! While the hustle and bustle of these next few weeks take hold, we hope that you will join with us in helping our young followers remember the reason for the season. We look forward to sharing many connections between all we see during the holidays and as we learn each day, how it all comes back to our Father and the great love he has for each one of us! The children will be doing a long term cross curricular activity during Advent. This will be presented and assigned to them the beginning of the week. There will be an interview piece to be done at home and then the remainder of the activity will be completed in school. Final product will be due on December 18th so we can present the several days prior to Christmas break.

As Advent begins may you have time to pause and find the peace, joy, and hope of the season! Wishing you a most blessed time of preparation for that most wonderful gift of God's everlasting love!

*Warm Regards,
Mrs. B*

Some of the highlights of the season on Flight 4B:

Scripture, prayer, and service top our list of activities during Advent. We will learn many things about our faith during the season, as well as reasons for the season and the stories of our Savior's birth.

We do not have an Elf on the Shelf in fourth grade. IF everyone observes this tradition at home, we will have a special activity where the children can share the antics of their elf through picture and journaling. I ask that elves not be sent to school in backpacks or any other means of transportation.

We will have a book exchange in a few weeks for a fun way to share the giving spirit. Details on this will be sent out later in the week. This will be a part of our Christmas celebration, plans still underway.

We will be having a gingerbread decorating celebration with our buddies; we will be having a little treat that day so more details to follow.

Charlie Brown is a part of our Christmas in 4B; I find that while it is a cartoon, it teaches such a valuable lesson of the season. Linus reciting the Christmas story from the Gospel of Luke and each character's realization of what Christmas really is about is heartwarming and brings the meaning to the children in a way they easily connect with; and while there is a reference to the jolly soul, I don't know if they realize that Santa Claus doesn't make an appearance in the cartoon.



"I never thought it was such a bad little tree. It's not bad at all, really. Maybe it just needs a little love."

Now Boarding for our Learning Journey

Long Term Assessments and Activities

Planned Assessments for the Week:

Monday: Spelling Pretest (no studying required) Tuesday: Religion Test
Wednesday: Compare/Contrast Test Thursday: Math Quiz
Friday: Spelling Test, Vocab Test

Long Term Activities:

Family Christmas Traditions will be due December 18. (Will be assigned beginning of the week)

Destination: ELA

We are wrapping up our reading of *Toothpaste Millionaire* with a number of reader response activities. The children have enjoyed the story on many levels, especially the discussion about inventions and how a small idea can grow into something big! We have used the story to work with a number of our comprehension skills. We have worked on Summarization and Making Inferences, Story Elements; and in the upcoming weeks we will work with Compare/Contrast and Cause/Effect. We are also using our math skills as we read parts of the novel which present as word problems!

During the next few weeks we will be working more with informational reading about the season, as well as articles about inventors and inventions. We will work on comparing and contrasting, as well as how to cite key details and use them to teach others through writing and presentation.

After the holidays we are looking forward to our adventures with Poppy. In addition to reading comprehension skills, we will be working on cross curricular topics with Science; and learning a bit about reading and creating maps and trails and directions as we explore Dim Forest and the travels of our characters. Please have your child's copy in school by December 20 so we can begin on our return January 2.

Destination: Math

We are working with long division; we are at the beginning stages learning the procedure so that we can build habit as to how approach this operation. We learned Does McDonalds Sell Cheese Burgers Raw...Divide Multiply Subtract Check Bring down Repeat or Remainder. We are also working on how to interpret the remainder so we are using our word problem practice to help with this.

Destination: Science

We will be doing a number of observations and note taking and brainstorming in the upcoming week as we are getting ready to prepare our proposals and filing our intent to invent paperwork for the upcoming Invention Convention. In our science curriculum we will be working on properties and patterns of waves.

Destination: Religion

In the upcoming week we begin Advent; which also marks the new year in the Church. The children have begun learning about the Liturgical Year, Liturgical Calendar, and the Seasons of the Church. They will also learn about the colors and meanings of those colors that go with the different times that are marked on the Liturgical Calendar. We will be sharing the signs and symbols of the season and how they connect to Christ. This will be our focus for the month of December. It is my hope to share with the children a peaceful season that is focused on Christ and showing that the secular symbols and traditions that many of us celebrate have a connection back to our faith. We hope to be able to share a tradition from each of our family celebrations. We will observe a count down to Christmas through scripture, as well as celebrate Christmas and the Epiphany. While the children learn about the Liturgical Year and Calendar and the seasons and colors; as well as the signs and symbols of Advent, they will be assessed at different times through quizzes, activities, presentations, and tests.

Destination: Social Studies and Writing (Mrs. Damalas)

Writing – We have almost completed our descriptive writing. Our topic is Autumn. The students have worked hard on their writing. Our next writing will be an Opinion Piece. Parents, please send in a Composition Notebook so we can continue our prompt writing at home. Thank You. In our Sadlier Grammar books we are working on complex and compound sentences.

Social Studies – We have been reading and taking notes on the 2nd chapter. This chapter is about “The American People” and how we are united.