

**Third grade displays the ornaments they made for
River Glen Nursing Home. Awesome!**

Mrs. Z's Busy Bees

News from the Hive

We had a very busy Thursday, so this edition of News From the Hive is brought to you by Mrs. Z.

MATH

We are continuing our chapter on division. By now, we should be able to recall all the facts from 1 to 5, so please continue to practice them at home. When we come back from Christmas break, we'll revisit multiplication and concentrate on the 6 - 12 facts. The more automatic we are at reciting them, the easier division will be for us!

WRITING

1

This week in writing we finished writing letters to our pen pal and reviewed the parts of a friendly letter and how to write them. Our letters will be enclosed in gifts bags containing the beautiful ornaments we made with Mrs. Kirkman and Mrs. Locke. Thank you to everyone who sent in Christmas cards that these two talented women helped us turn into ornaments. We each made an extra to bring

home to hang on your family tree, so watch for those to come home Friday!

We have begun brainstorming ideas for our Christmas fairy tales, which we began drafting today. We have to incorporate at least three fairy tale elements into our stories, so we brainstormed ideas with a partner and used fairy tale story cards to help us develop our ideas.

SCIENCE

We began our rocks and minerals unit by reviewing background information we will need for our experiment next week where we will classify various types of rocks after testing them.

READING

We have begun studying fairy tales, which are a special type of folktale. We created a chart of various elements which make fairy tales special and the types of characters we encounter when reading them. We have also studied

different Cinderella stories from across the world. So far, we've read stories from China, Denmark, Ireland, Zimbabwe and Egypt and have plotted these places on our world map. Monday we will read a Korean Cinderella story and compare its elements to the Disney Cinderella story we all grew up with.

While reading the Egyptian Cinderella, we studied how illustrations give

meaning to text when reading about another culture. Some things we analyzed were the different styles of clothing, landscape, everyday items and animals in the story we read.

AND FINALLY.....

2

Mrs. Meyers visited us on Thursday and we discussed what self esteem is and how making goals can help self esteem. We did two activities and watched two videos and discussed them as a class. Today we will be talking about playground manners and how to approach a group of children that we may want to join and play with. Grades 1, 2 and 3 will have the same discussion so when we play

together outside, we all have the same background information, which will make recess time even more fun!

Please continue to send in gifts for our adopted families. They will be collected next week.

NO SPELLING (YAY!) next week. With the upcoming festivities and special activities we have planned, we will wait until after the holidays to do spelling.

We'd love to have a small gift exchange in the classroom next Friday, December 21st. That day we will go to Mass and then spend about 45 minutes celebrating together, having snack and exchanging gifts. We will be going to the Gathering Hall at 10:30 for Christmas Bingo before being dismissed at noon.

For our classroom exchange, please send in a small (\$10 or so) gift for us to put under our tree. Each child will choose a gift at random to open. If you would like to send in a special Christmas snack or two for your child to eat during our exchange, please feel free to do so!

Have a wonderful weekend!

With Love, Third Grade

