



***We await the coming of Christ with joyful hope
this Advent.***

Grade 3 December 2021

Dear Parents,

December has arrived! The students worked diligently to complete their reflections and set goals for the three way conferences last week. It was a pleasure to meet each family to celebrate the students' successes and plan together to support their learning in the coming months.

December is a very exciting month, as we await the coming of Christ as well as all of the celebrations over the Christmas break. In the midst of this excitement, it is important to maintain good work habits (both in class and at home). Therefore, all homework needs to be completed, signed and submitted on time, as per usual.

I would like to take this opportunity to express my sincere gratitude to you, parents, for the tremendous support and flexibility you have shown to both your child and me since we embarked on our adventure in September.

I wish you all a peaceful, healthy and joyful Advent and Christmas as you prepare and celebrate with your families.

Curriculum focus for the month of December.

Religion:

→ Advent:

- ★ The Liturgical calendar (colours, symbols and scriptural references).
- ★ The Jesse Tree (locating stories in the Old Testament and writing reflective responses in prayer journals).
- ★ We will carry out our 'Advent Class Action Plan' based on the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy.

- Preparation for confession.
- We will carry out our own Advent prayer services in class weekly.

English Language Arts:

Reading:

- Continue to develop fluency and expression. I would encourage students to continue to read for 15 minutes each day over the holidays on Raz Kids.
- Dictionary skills: Students will examine and identify the various parts of a dictionary entry. Students will begin to use the dictionary as a tool for developing new vocabulary.
- Examining text features of procedural writing.

Writing: Procedural writing: Christmas recipes, How to decorate a Christmas tree.

Poetry: Christmas poetry.

Word study: Digraphs- ch/tch/th

Math:

- Daily mental math practice (addition and subtraction).
- 2 and 3 digit subtraction with regrouping.
- Developing **word problem solving skills** (integrated with Growth Mindset):

Identifying and implementing the steps in solving single step word problems: 1. Identify 'clue' words' 2. Draw a picture of your solution 3. Explain your solution in words 4. Show your solution as an equation 5. Share your solution with a partner and explain an alternative way to solve the problem.

Science: Climate change:

- Causes and impacts on the environment, particularly the Coastal Temperate Rainforest.
- Making connections to recent events as a result of climate change.
- Generating ideas and creating an action plan to help to solve this problem.

Socials: Christmas traditions around the world.

French: Christmas vocabulary and Christmas greetings.

Career Education:

- '**Growth Mindset**' (continued) Students will explore how our mindset impacts our way of approaching challenges, influencing our academic and social/emotional success.
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Art: Seasonal art activities (Jesse Tree, manger scene, winter art).

ADST: S.T.E.A.M challenge: Christmas challenge- Designing and creating a toy for Santa's workshop.

Important dates to note:

Tuesday November 30th: Recording for the Christmas musical. All students are asked to ensure that they bring their costume to school in a bag (**black clothing**).

Wednesday December 1st: Wear Christmas colours for further video recording.

Thursday December 2nd: First Communion parent meeting at 7:00pm (for those planning to receive this sacrament this year).

Sunday December 5th: Rite of enrollment for First Holy Communion recipients. 9am mass.

Friday December 17th: Christmas break begins! 12pm dismissal.

Confessions will take place during school time over the next few weeks. The date and time is to be confirmed. I will inform you once this has been confirmed.

I look forward to another month with Grade 3!

*Nollaig Shona agus Athbhliain faoi mhaise daoibh.
Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and every
blessing for the New Year.*

Le gach dea-ghui (With every blessing),

Ms. Kinsella.

