

# Mrs. Tropf's Newsletter

November 29, 2012

Dear Kindergarten Parents,

I trust you and your family enjoyed the long holiday break last week and had a wonderful Thanksgiving celebration together. My daughters and son-in-law were with us for most of the week and we traveled to Pennsylvania to be with my parents and prepare Thanksgiving dinner for them. It was such a blessing to spend time together and rejoice in God's goodness to each one of us!

I want to thank you for your involvement in our community service project to Cherry Street Mission Ministries. Our class raised \$70.00!!!! I think that is terrific!! The children made Thanksgiving cards to give the guests at the mission. After school on November 19th, Mrs. Hackett and I went to the mission to deliver our financial gift and the cards made by the children. The ladies in the reception area were touched by our gifts for the people at the mission. Thank you for giving in a practical way to share the love of God with needy people in our community.

Speaking of giving...We are collecting canned goods and non-perishable food items for our Christmas basket project. As soon as I have details about the family our class is "adopting" for Christmas, I will send you a letter with information about the family members so you can shop for their Christmas gifts.

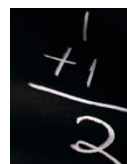


Next week we begin the busy and exciting month of December. Your children and I will have fun getting into the holiday spirit and will enjoy special activities for the new month of December. In the weeks to come I will be reading some of my favorite Christmas stories to the children to focus on the Biblical account of the Christmas story. I want to turn the children's attention to the real reason we celebrate Christmas---the birth of Christ, our Saviour. In the weeks of December I will be sharing *The Crippled Lamb*, *The Christmas Miracle*

*of Jonathan Toomey, The Legend of the Candy Cane, The Tale of Three Trees, The Jesus Tree, The Candymaker's Gift, and The Legend of the Christmas Tree.* December is a fun month for holiday stories, surprises to make, and crafts for Christmas. It is one of my favorite times of the year.

Our Bible lessons next week will cover the sad story of Cain and Abel and the meaning of the word *jealousy*. The children will discover that jealousy led Cain to murder his brother Abel. The children will learn three practical ways to combat jealousy and learn that sharing is always the best choice. Jealousy only causes pain within a family. The new memory verse, due on December 6, is ***1 Corinthians 13:4: "Love is patient. Love is kind. It does not envy."*** Please help your child learn the verse at home and we'll practice it at school.

We begin an exciting adventure in math next week: a new chapter on addition! In kindergarten the children are not required to master any addition facts or work on facts for speed. That comes in first grade. The introduction to addition is for exposure, not mastery, at this age level. Your child will learn that addition is putting groups of objects together and then we count to see how many there are altogether /in all. I want your sons and daughters to grasp the concept of joining sets of objects. This is the foundation of addition. They will also learn about the plus sign and the equal sign. There are lots of fun ways to practice addition at home. Stay tuned for more information in the next newsletter...



In phonics we will review beginning consonant sounds and short vowel sounds in the middle position. The children will meet four new Letter People: Mr. D (who does a **Dazzling **D**ance), Mr. G (who has **Goopy **G**um), Mr. C (who wears a **Colossal **C**ap), and Mr. I (who has **Impossible **I**nches). Remember: these identities are top secret!!! We are having loads of fun meeting the Letter People each week and discovering where********

they hide in our classroom. Of course, another Letter Person can usually give us a clue since the Letter People stay in the room all night and watch the mysterious happenings while we are all at home with our families. It is such a pleasure to work with eager, enthusiastic learners like your children.

Just a reminder about the sight word rings: Use them at home during the week and over the weekend to review the words on the ring. With practice your child should be able to identify the words quickly and easily. Send the ring in the plastic purse to me every Monday unless I tell you otherwise. I will attach the new word(s) for the week and send it home as soon as I have all the rings collected. If there are no new words on the ring, just keep working on the same words for review and return the ring the next Monday. I hope you and your kindergartner are enjoying using this learning tool together at home. It will aid word recognition skills and retention if used regularly and will boost your child's confidence as he reads in class and sees these familiar words. Thank you for the time and effort you put into this "homework" each week. I appreciate your involvement.

December sight words from the monthly list are as follows:

**SEE PLAY BIG RED UP AM SO BLUE YELLOW**

Did your child tell you about our special visitor before Thanksgiving break? A community helper came to our class on November 19. Trooper Jason Lankey, a state trooper with the Ohio Highway Patrol, visited our class and told about his job as a police officer. He showed the children his uniform and special equipment, answered questions, and let the children look inside his patrol car and trunk. They were fascinated with everything they saw and asked lots of questions! It was a great learning experience for the class. Jason is a graduate of TCS and a former student of mine.

Our next Star of the Week will be Israel Soto.

Are you taking time to read to your child for 15 minutes every evening? It will reap big dividends over time as you enjoy good literature together and your child learns about vocabulary, comprehension, fluency, and expression. Take time to cuddle and read some good stories together so that your little one develops a love for reading and books. Don't forget to keep track of your minutes on the nightly reading record that I sent home to you. I'll collect them at the end of the month. You can also count this nightly reading time toward the Reading Eagles program.

When your child has read 25 books for the Macaw level of the Reading Eagles program, send the record sheet to me. I'll notify Mrs. Gioiella so your son/daughter can be recognized in the first chapel of the month and receive the Macaw level award.



Have a wonderful autumn weekend and may God's abundant blessings be yours.

November blessings,  
Mrs. Trof

