

# Mrs. Tropf's Newsletter

December 6, 2012

Dear Kindergarten Parents,

We are having fun this week hearing some of my favorite Christmas stories. Hopefully your child told you all about the candy cane and the many ways it reminds us of Jesus our Saviour. We look forward to enjoying our daily advent calendar as we hear the Christmas story with visual reminders. We are also counting the days until Christ's birth, so the excitement is mounting.



In Bible next week we will review the story of Cain and Abel and discuss the difference between *sin* and *mistake*. Our focus will be on honesty and why telling the truth is so important. Our new memory verse comes from Proverbs 12:22: "The Lord detests lying lips, but he delights in men who are truthful." The children need to be ready to recite the verse to me by Thursday. Before Christmas break, I'd like the children to recite to me **Luke 2:11: "Today a Saviour has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord."** We will work on it in the classroom and say it together for practice. I'd like the children to recite it to me the week of December 17. Your extra practice at home is appreciated and will boost your child's confidence as he prepares to recite the verse to the class.



This week the students met Mr. D (**D**azzling **D**ance), Mr. G (**G**oody **G**um), Mr. C (**C**olossal **C**ap), and Mr. I (**I**mpossible **I**nches). I'm having so much fun introducing the Letter People to your children. Each day they are excited and eager to learn. After this week your kindergartner will know three short vowel sounds, since we have met Miss A (short a), Miss E (short e), and Mr. I (short i). Please help your child identify these sounds in words. The class as a whole is having difficulty

identifying the middle vowel sound in words, so extra practice would be beneficial. Next week we will learn two new sounds, the "sh" sound and "ch" sound. We will review beginning consonant sounds in words and work on middle vowel sounds.

Another Letter Person comes to visit us next week: Mr. O, who is **O**pposite. Please keep his identity a secret so I can surprise the class!!! Tell older siblings to please keep the Letter People a surprise for younger siblings this year.

In math we will continue working on the concept of addition as joining two groups of objects together. The children will be introduced to the plus sign, the term "sum" (the answer to an addition problem), learn about addition sentences, and do problem solving by drawing a picture. The class will take a test on the addition chapter on Thursday.

Our next Kindergarten Star of the Week will be Sydney Handley.



Please read the following reminders and information carefully:

1. In the event of questionable weather, check our school website or Channels 11, 13, or 24 to see if TCS is on a 2 hour delay. If we are on a delay, children can arrive after 9:30 but must be here by 10:15 to start the day. Students arriving after 10:15 are counted tardy. Children should report to our class table in the cafeteria and be seated.
2. The sight word rings will stay at home until January 7 and then return in the BEE folder.
3. Our class Christmas party is Friday morning, December 21, from 9:30-11:15. Contact Mrs. Seiler if you would like to help in the classroom or donate items for the party. **December 21 is a half day of school and dismissal will begin at 11:45 that day.**
4. Kindergarten report cards will go home in the BEE folders on January 24.

5. Please read carefully the information sent home on Monday and Tuesday about our Christmas family. All grocery items and gifts must be turned in by Friday, December 14. Thank you so much for your help with this worthwhile project!

6. If your child brings home a paper that says "REVIEW AND RETURN" please be sure to go over that page and the concepts he/she missed. If the paper needs to be returned to me please initial or sign it so I know you saw the paper and reviewed it with your child.

7. If your child is absent from school I will send home the work he/she missed in class. Please try to complete the assignments that night and send the work back to me the next day so I can keep my grades and records up to date. Thanks so much for your help with this request.

8. Soon I will be evaluating the children on how well they know their birth date, address (with zip code), and phone number with area code. These would be good things to work on over Christmas break. A number of us still need to learn to tie shoes and zip zippers. Keep practicing!!!!!!!!!!!!

9. Many of us are still not sure of numbers from 1-31, especially the numbers from 11-31. Flash cards can be used in fun drill games or you can have your child say and write the numbers to reinforce memorization. Randomly point to numbers in newspapers, stories, and magazines to see if your child recognizes them correctly. Consistent drill and exposure to numbers will aid retention.

I trust that in these busy days before Christmas you and your child will take time to meditate on the real Gift of the season---Jesus our Saviour. Help your child learn at an early age that "Jesus is the reason for the season." Enjoy these exciting, busy days and make some special memories with your kindergartner.

Love, joy, and peace,  
Mrs. Tropf

