



Weekly News from Mrs. Mikalsen's Class December 13, 2024



Language Arts:

~We looked for the Word of the Week: **can** in our books, poems and messages

~During literacy centers we:

- practiced reading and writing our trick words
- practiced writing our last 4 Foundations letters and sounds
- identified rhyming pairs
- identified initial sounds in words
- read and colored a booklet about things that Rudolph "can" do.

~We continued to work on writing opinion stories. This we created books about things that we like to eat. We are really focusing on telling our opinions first, and then recording our ideas using words and pictures with the help of various tools like our word wall, alphabet charts and spacing sticks.

~In small group instruction we are using Elkonin boxes to help develop our phonemic awareness skills, playing rhyming games, tapping out words and reading emergent texts.

~Foundations – We learned our last four letters: u~yellow~/y/, x~fox~/ks/, z~zebra~/z/ and qu~queen~/kw/. We are matching letters with their sounds, writing letters on our dry erase slates and attending to stories. We also played a skywriting game. We have started taking our Unit 1 Assessment.



Books:

~Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer

~Reindeer

~Olive the Other Reindeer

~Santa's Story

~The Wild Christmas Reindeer

~Oh Nose!

Poems/Songs:

"The Reindeer"

Upcoming Events

Thursday 12/19

Classroom holiday party

Friday 12/20

Early Dismissal

– Kindergarten - wear your holiday PJ's



December 23rd through January 1st

Winter Break



Birthdays

Thomas 12/17



Math:

~We are continuing our countdown to Winter Break.
~solved bicycle & bicycle wheel number stories by looking at doubles
~We wrote equations to match sums to 10.
~We learned how to play a new game "Bicycle Race" where we have to roll a numbered die and then double it.
~We enjoyed playing a special seasonal workplace – the Dreidel game.



Social Studies/Science:

We fully began our new Social Studies unit entitled "My Team and Self." Successful teams can do just about anything. But to understand what you can accomplish as a team, you need to understand who makes up the team, how those individuals can work together, and how diversity makes a team more powerful. This week we:

- watched and analyzed a video of the race car pit crew to see how members of a team can work together
- generated questions that we had about teamwork.
- read the book *Colors of Us* and talked about our beautiful and diverse skin tones and the completed a worksheet to show and describe our skin tones.
- read the book *The Great Big Book of Families* and discussed people, places and things that are special to us

We have also been enjoying learning about everyone's family holiday traditions.



Reindeer Week

We loved learning about reindeer this week and doing special reindeer themed activities

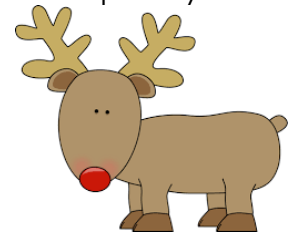


Special Project

We also used our fine motor skills to create some amazing Reindeer. They are hanging on our bulletin board and receiving lots of compliments.

Please Remember to

*Add the poem "Reindeer" to your child's poetry binder



*Winter weather is now here. Going outside for recess is an important part of our day. It gives us needed physical exercise as well an opportunity to practice social skills. **Please make sure that your child has appropriate outerwear so they can be warm and comfortable.**



