



Weekly News from Mrs. Mikalsen's Class December 20, 2019



Language Arts:

~We looked for the Word of the Week: **we** in our books and poems
 ~We read and looked at many non-fiction books about the holidays in our "Celebrations of Light" unit: Christmas and a re-visit to Hanukkah (which got short changed because of our snow day).
 ~We listened to the story Snowmen at Christmas in our Listening Center and then illustrated and wrote about our favorite part.
 ~We reviewed all the letters in our Foundations program and completed our Unit 1 Assessment. It will be on to uppercase letters and much, much more when we return in January.
 ~In our literacy centers we also: practiced letters and letter writing on our iPads, practiced reading and writing the word "we," used our fine motor skills to cut, color and glue candy canes, gingerbread people and Christmas trees.



Books:

- ~Christmas
- ~Hanukkah Bear
- ~Olive the Other Reindeer
- ~Books about Germany

Poems/Songs:

- "Dreidel Song"
- "Up on the Housetop"

Kindergarten

Upcoming Events and Reminders

Friday 12/20 - Early Dismissal & PJ Day

December 21st through January 1st

Winter Break



December Birthdays

Molly 12/3
Callie 12/27



Math:

- ~We continued to work on all of our math routines that really help us to develop our number sense. We counted to 69 (days of school) and wrote equations to represent 69.
- ~We practiced careful counting techniques, and used these to build numbers through 10.
- ~We worked on developing and understanding the concept of subtraction by taking away one from a given set.
- ~We explored hexagons and had some wonderful discussions about the similarities and differences of hexagons to other shapes.
- ~We practiced writing our numbers.



Social Studies/Science:

- ~We concluded our Celebration of Light Unit!
- ~We took our last "flight" on Barley Sheaf Air to Germany. We "visited" a Christmas Market and a German castle
- ~We decorated a few different varieties of Christmas trees.
- ~We also worked with our KPALS to make a menorah in celebration of Hanukkah



We had a wonderful class party to culminate this unit. Many thanks to everyone who sent in food and supplies. At the party we:

- Performed the Mexican Hat Dance
- Got presents from a piñata
- Made Christmas tree ornaments
- Played Holiday Bingo

Sampled foods related to all the places/holidays we learned about in the unit, including: latkes (Israel/Hanukkah), hot chocolate and tortilla chips with salsa (Mexico/Los Posadas), fresh fruit (Kwanzaa/African-American), animal crackers (Diwali/India), and pretzels and kielbasa (Christmas/Germany)

Art:

- ~We created Christmas trees and decorated them to our own artistic liking.



Please Remember to

*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. If they do not have a proper coat, they will not be allowed to go outside for recess.**

