

Mrs. Smith's Smidgens

Issue #14

December 5, 2025

ABC Pattern Advent Chains

Students took home their Advent Chains on Thursday. They worked both Monday and Tuesday to complete their ABC pattern on their chain. The directions for using the Advent Chain every night are at the top on the yellow star. This is a fun tradition that I did with my own children for years!

Perhaps it will start or continue this tradition with your family, too.

General Weather Reminders

We follow Academy School District 20 for delays and closures.

If District 20 calls a 2 Hour Delay:
AM Kindergarten is 10:15 a - 12:30 pm
PM Kindergarten is 1:15 pm - 3:30 pm

Students may wear denim with a TCA approved uniform shirt.

When we are at school, we do go outside for recess whenever we can. Please send your child to school with a warm coat, gloves, and a hat, so that they can enjoy their outdoor play.

Important Dates

Fri., Dec. 12

MOY DIBELS Testing Reminders will be sent from SignUp.com.
Please be on time for your student's appt.

Wed., Dec. 17

Holidays Around the World Concert
AM Class 10:00-11:00
PM Class 2:00-3:00

Thur., Dec. 18

Class Christmas Parties
AM Class 10:30-11:30
PM Class 2:30-3:30

**Fri., Dec. 19-
Mon. Jan. 5**

Christmas Break

Tues., Jan. 6

School Resumes for K students only

Thurs., Jan. 15

Hearing and Vision Screening

Mon., Jan. 19

NO SCHOOL
Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

Tues., Jan. 20

1st Semester Report Cards Go Home

Curriculum

Math: We will complete our unit on Comparing Numbers within 10 next week, have the chapter test and move on to the next unit called Numbers within 20.

Core Knowledge: We will continue our study of Pushes and Pulls that we just started this past week.

Spalding: Planning to Teach These Phonograms Next Week: "er, of her" (1 sound), "ir, of first" (1 sound), "ur, of nurse" (1 sound) and "wor, of works" (1 sound)

Language Arts: Vowel sounds in the middle of words, phonemic awareness skills, words with our 2-letter phonograms, lots of handwriting (Practice makes better!), words that will be our Spelling words and continue reading nonsense words!

Read Aloud Books: The Mitten Tree by Candace Christiansen, More, Fewer Less by Tana Hoban and Motion: Push and Pull, Fast and Slow by Darlene Stille

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Taught 2-Letter Phonograms

sh, ee, th,
ow, ou, oo,
ch, ar, ay, ai,
oy and oi

Sound in a Sack

Week of
Dec. 9-11

“l”

Phonogram Test

Our 3rd phonogram test will be Thurs., Dec. 11. The test will include 7 previously taught “alphabet phonograms.” We will have focused oral and/or written practice on those 7 phonograms every day next week. Proper TCA handwriting strokes (the “TCA way”) is expected. The 3rd phonogram test will include u, j, k, l, m, n and p. Your student’s practice test will always go home in their backpack on Wednesday.

Mitten Tree Service Project

On Monday, I read the story The Mitten Tree to students. This was the “kick off” to our December All Kindergarten Service Project of collecting mittens, gloves, hats, scarves, and earmuffs. The Mitten Tree will be up in our classroom next week! A brightly colored flyer was in your student’s take-home folder that explains our Mitten Tree. This ties in perfectly with our December TCA character trait of generosity.

Holidays Around the World Concert

Invitations and RSVPs will go home after Thanksgiving Break. This is a “family and friends” event! All speaking parts were sent to parents. All other students will be holding props. We encourage students to dress up in their “Christmas best” or wear TCA uniform, preferably a red or green shirt.

Holiday Parties

Info from Party Coordinators will be sent soon! Holiday Parties are for students and their parents, not siblings. We will have a Book Exchange during our Party. Girls bring a book for a girl; boys bring a book for a boy. The price limit is \$5.00. It will be a Holiday Sweater and Denim Day!

Something to Ponder

*“The first fall of snow is not only an event,
but it is a magical event.*

You go to bed in one kind of world

*and wake up to find yourself in another quite different,
and if this is not enchantment, where is it to be found?”*

J. B. PRIESTLEY

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