

# Mrs. Smith's Smidgens

## Issue #16

December 19, 2025

### Final Silent "e"

We've learned, and continue to practice, the 5 jobs of final silent "e." I'll be adding a page of these jobs to your student's baggie book bag after Christmas Break to help at home.

### Spelling Tests

Reminder: Spelling Tests will begin on Thurs., Jan. 15. More details will be shared in my Jan. 9, 2026 newsletter.

### Mitten Tree Update

Hats: 35

Gloves: 23 pairs

Mittens: 16 pairs

Scarves: 6

Earmuffs: 1 pair

Thank you all for your generosity! Our Mitten Tree was so beautiful.

### New Markers Needed

Many students are needing new Crayola markers! Please send new markers to school after Christmas Break, if needed and I'll keep their old ones that still work in my "extras" bucket.

### Important Dates

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

Christmas Break

**Thurs., Dec. 25**

Merry Christmas!

**Thurs., Jan. 1**

Happy 2026!

**Tues., Jan. 6**

School Resumes for K students only

**Wed., Jan. 7**

Return Baggie Book

**Thurs., Jan. 8**

Return Library Book

**Mon., Jan. 12**

2<sup>nd</sup> Semester Begins

**Thurs., Jan. 15**

Hearing and Vision Screening

**Mon., Jan. 19**

NO SCHOOL  
Martin Luther King, Jr.  
Day

**Tues., Jan. 20**

1<sup>st</sup> Semester Report  
Cards Go Home

## Curriculum

**Math:** This week lessons included Two Ways to Count, Numbers 16 to 20 and Number Words 0 to 10. When we return to school, we will practice number words for 0 to 10, 11 to 15 and 16 to 20.

**Core Knowledge:** We will pick up on our Pushes and Pulls Science unit in January.

**Spalding:** We had daily practice on all our 2-letter phonograms, especially focusing on **er**, **ir**, **ur**, **wor**, and **ear**. Hoping students will not forget them over our 18-day break!

**Language Arts:** Medial vowel sounds, phonemic awareness, words with 2-letter phonograms, handwriting, future Spelling words, nonsense words, and the 5 jobs of final silent "e"

**Read Aloud Books:** Her First Nurse Works Early by Sarah Lapsley (the kids loved this book with our 5 "er" phonograms, especially raising their hands every time they heard one of them!), The Legend of the Poinsettia by Tomie dePaola and Jingle Bells as told by Iza Trapani

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### Taught 2-Letter Phonograms

sh, ee, th,  
ow, ou, oo,  
ch, ar, ay, ai,  
oy, oi,  
er, ir, ur, wor, and ear

### Sound in a Sack Week of Jan. 6-8 "n"

### Thank You!

Thank you to every student and family who blessed me with a Christmas card and/or gift. I feel so very loved! I appreciate the opportunity to partner with you to educate your child this school year.

A few gifts had no tag with them. So, if your child does not receive a "thank you" note by the end of January and they brought me a gift, please email me. Tell me what your child brought, and I will get a "thank you" note to them.

### Phonogram Test

No phonogram test on Thursday, Jan. 8. Due to the short week, the need to review after 18 days away from school and the students "getting back in the swing of things."

### Holidays Around the World Concert

I hope you and your family enjoyed our "Holidays Around the World" Concert. Students did a wonderful job sharing their hearts and voices. I was very proud of each of my students! There's nothing quite like Kindergarten students excitedly singing Christmas songs together to fill you with holiday spirit. A special "thank you" to the parents who taught their children their speaking part at home. Thanks also to those who generously provided the treats we enjoyed following the concert!

### Holiday Parties

Thanks to all the parents who helped make our holiday parties a success! I overheard several students in both classes say it was "the best day ever!" Many hands make light work . . .

### Something to Ponder

*"Merry Christmas to all,  
and to all a good night!"*

The Night Before Christmas

Clement C. Moore, 1823

### Mrs. Smith's Contact Information

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