Hello Parents and Guardians,
Another week flies by before Christmas! You can tell that Christmas is in the air. We have been lighting our Advent wreath and saying Advent prayers. We have been discussing “Christmas favorites” during Community Circle. We also have loved reading *A Christmas Carol*, by Charles Dickens. We have been working really hard to complete all of our units before we leave for Christmas break and I think we can do it!

The Week Ahead:

**Math:** We will still be working on Unit 5, *Fractions, Percents, and Decimals*. We will complete lessons 5-5, 5-6, and 5-7.

**Reading:** We have read the first stave of *A Christmas Carol*. We also read half of the second stave today. We will continue reading this next week and almost finish it. We should finish the book by Monday the 14th. Then they will have a test and go to the movie! The AR point deadline is approaching soon! Email me with any questions!

**Social Studies:** We are almost finished with chapter four, *The First Colonies*. We have learned about the Spanish Colonies, the Virginia Colonies, and Plymouth Colony. We only have the French and Dutch colonies left to study. The next week (14th-18th) we will review and test.

**Science:** We are almost finished with our *Classification of Animals* packet. As all of you probably know, the kids have already picked out their animals for the final project. For their final project, they will be creating a poster. This will be done in class. The poster will be split up into four sections and they will put specific information into each section. The first section will tell the name of the animal, its class, and its characteristics. The second section will tell about the animal’s environment. The third section will tell about the animal’s diet. The fourth section will tell about the animal’s life cycle. A more detailed description and rubric is included in your child’s science packet in their binder. Like I said above, this will be done in class. I would like you to help your child get some resources this weekend if possible. This can include books from the library, magazines, encyclopedia, or internet sources.

**Vocabulary:** Their books were graded today. The test is on Friday. Remember, I don’t require flashcards anymore.

**Religion:** We will be reading about Advent and doing Advent activities until after Christmas.

FYI
*No school on Tuesday because of The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary.*
*Please be sending in canned goods with your child for the food drive.
*Remember to come to the Holiday Bazaar at St. James tomorrow!
*Reconciliation is on Monday.
*We will be practicing like crazy for the Christmas Program. On December 14th, there is a 2 pm performance for school, grandparents, and the over 50 group. At 6:50 pm is the performance – Kids and teachers need to be here at 6:30.

*Our class Christmas Party is on Tuesday, December 22nd. I was SUPPOSED to hand out the flyers at conferences. Most parents got them, but I forgot to give them to a few parents. Email me if you need a flyer explaining the White Elephant gift exchange.

Have a wonderful weekend!

-Miss Alley