

## Junior Kindergarten Newsletter Week of January 18, 2022

We have had a great return to school after our long and unexpected break. The students fell back into their routine quickly. There are several things that I have been emphasizing more since our return and that has to do with distance and masks. Because of the Omicron spread I have been more demanding with the students in wearing their masks properly covering their nose and maintaining distance. It is very important that they remain in their area/seat. This is a hard concept for them as they just want to be social but it is critical right now. If you could emphasize these two things at home I would appreciate it.

### **Academics**

1. Our new alphabet letter will be letter Hh.
2. In math we will begin a unit on patterns.
3. In religious education we are going to study Moses, (his adoption, escape from Egypt, and the ten Commandments). This will probably last for 2 weeks.
4. We are also going to do a short study of penguins with some non-fiction reading and create a lap book about what we learned.

### **Books:**

We will continue to read Gerald the Elephant and Piggie series by Mo

Willems. We are also going to be reading some of the Tacky the Penguin books by Helen Lester.

### **Other**

- Monday is a holiday in celebration of Martin Luther King, Jr.
- There is a potential for heavy snow Sunday-Monday. This may impact school. I hope that you were able to read the message from Principal Riley regarding the possibility of having a virtual day on Tuesday should weather prevent us from being in the building. I will be sending home on Friday some materials for the students to work on should be indeed have a virtual school day I will also be posting 2 google meet times to choose from so that we can meet as a class and do a “morning meeting” to complete the calendar, introduce our new letter Hh, and talk a bit about math. You will receive an email from me on Tuesday morning, (unless I do not have internet), if we indeed have a virtual school day.

Yours in Christ,  
Christine Shank  
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## **Celebrating Catholic Schools Week**

**January 30th - February 4th**

### **Sunday, January 30th:**

*We celebrate our parishes!*

Students are asked to wear their formal dress to Mass/church services.

### **Monday, January 31st:**

*We celebrate our community!*

We will collect food all week to benefit the Blue Ridge Food Bank.

Students may wear a crazy hat for a \$1 donation.

All money collected will benefit Habitat for Humanity.

### **Tuesday, February 1st:**

*We celebrate our students!*

Students may wear their Spirit Team shirts with other small blue and/or gold accessories.

### **Wednesday, February 2nd:**

*We celebrate our nation!*

Students may wear red, white, and blue.

### **Thursday, February 3rd:**

*We celebrate our vocations!*

Students may dress for their future job/profession/vocation.

### **Friday, February 4th:**

*We celebrate our faculty, staff, and families!*

Students must be in formal dress for Mass and a Faith Rally.



### **From the Administration**

I am aware that there is potential for another winter storm Sunday into Monday. Fortunately, Monday is a federal holiday and school is closed. If we are unable to physically be in the building on Tuesday, we are planning on attempting a virtual day. We are doing this because we have already missed 5 days of school and hope to not add make-up days to the end of our school year. I fully realize that this plan only works if the area does not lose power or internet. If we have virtual school and you cannot access, it will be an excused absence. Teachers will be sending home materials that will be needed in the event that we are home. JK-3rd grade will be largely asynchronous, with digital check-ins available throughout the day. 4th-8th grades will utilize Google Meet and Google Classroom to hold classes as normally scheduled.

Please know that this is just an attempt.  
If it is just not feasible, we will cancel  
school as we normally would.

In Christ,

Michael Riley, Ed.D.

Principal

***"The light shines in the darkness,  
and the darkness has not  
overcome it"--John 1:5***