

## Teacher's Message/Announcements

Dear Second Grade Families,

It's the most wonderful time of the year! The Holly Jollies and Praying Puppies have been all smiles this week while shopping at the St. Nick Shop, adventuring on the Polar Express, solving Christmas clues from BreakoutEdu, applying for senior elf positions at the North Pole, and much more! And to top it all off, they got to enjoy attending Mass in person again! Oh what fun we've had during this Gaudete week of rejoicing!

We wish each and everyone of you a heartfelt Merry Christmas! It is such a gift to teach your children!

God bless,

Miss Jones & Mrs. Robinson

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### **Reminders / Announcements:**

1. Please send your child to school DAILY with **proper outerwear** (coats, hats, etc.). Don't forget to label these items! We will be eating, playing, and learning **OUTSIDE** as much as possible! Hooray!
2. With a new year and fresh start upon us, please make sure to review the uniform policy for CCS ([linked here](#)).
3. Please refer to the [Spelling Homework Choice Board](#) for weekly spelling homework choices.

### **Math**

Congratulations to the Holly Jollies and the Praying Puppies for completing Unit 4 with a flourish! Hooray for our super subtractors!

Following the Winter Break, we will begin a unit on telling time. Students will be able to discern the difference between A.M. and P.M. and will learn to tell time to the hour, half hour, quarter hour, and in five minute intervals.

While we will be taking a brief break from computation, please continue to support your child's automaticity with math facts by practicing daily at home.

### **Literacy (Reading / Writing / Spelling)**

Upon our return in January, the Holly Jollies and the Praying Puppies will begin new novels in reading groups, study verbs in grammar, pen a host of fabulous writing pieces related to winter and our units of study, attack new lists of spelling words, and hone their handwriting skills.

### **Science / Social Studies**

In our final week studying American Indians, our spectacular second graders focused on the Pueblo Tribe of the Southwest. The kiddos loved building a pueblo village, highlighting the tools, homes, transportation, food, and jobs of this amazing tribe in their construction. While studying tribes living in three distinct regions of the United States, the Praying Puppies and Holly Jollies took the opportunity to explore U.S. geography in context, including land and water features such as the James, Mississippi, and Rio Grande Rivers; the Rocky and Appalachian Mountains; and the Great Lakes.

We'll kick off the new year by studying the contributions of famous people, exploring inventions and innovations throughout U.S. history, and experimenting with magnetism!

### **Religion**

This week, students practiced praying Visio Divina (Divine Seeing) as we reflected on the stories of the Annunciation and the Nativity. The children did a great job creating "shrines" of the Annunciation to help remember Mary's humble and profound "yes" to God!

Finally, we had the opportunity to celebrate the Mass in person once again. Great job to all of our ministers!

When we return from break, students will discuss what prayer is, learn different types of prayer, and why it is important to pray.