

THE ST. PATRICK'S COURIER

A MONTHLY LOOK AT WHAT'S GOING ON IN OUR SCHOOL! DECEMBER 2017

PRE-SCHOOL AND PRE-KINDERGARTEN

by Lexee Beck

Mrs. Walker and her class have been very busy this month. They have been working on their performance for the Christmas program. The preschoolers sang "Jingle Bells" and "Away in the Manager" at the concert on Wednesday. They have been practicing for about three weeks, and are very excited to be performing for their parents. The preschoolers are also looking forward to the coming of Santa Claus!

KINDERGARTEN

by Colby Schreiner

Kindergarten is getting ready to start reading AR books and take tests after Christmas. Kindergarten through third grade is also doing the Jesse Tree and lighting advent candles. For the Jesse Tree, the students pray, sing, and tell stories about Jesus to prepare for Christmas. They will also be doing the Star of Afar. The Star will appear at a new spot with a new message every day. The message will ask the kids to do something nice, either for teachers, other students, parents, or the elderly. This month is about preparing for the birth of Jesus.

FIRST GRADE

by Kara Thimesch

The first grade class is doing a advent tree in their classroom this year. The tree has envelopes that will be opened

once a day all the way up to Christmas. Everyday the class gets to find the envelope for that day. Inside is instructions for what they have to do. The first graders are very excited to be doing this. The tree will be an Advent tree until Christmas day, then it will be a Christmas tree.

SECOND GRADE

by Marissa DeWeese

The second grade is having fun learning many different things this Advent season. They are learning about the liturgical year and stories of Jesus's birth in the school's atrium. In the spirit of Christmas the class will be reading *Polar Express* and studying polar animals and their environment. In Math, the class continues to practice telling time and counting money. Kindergarten through third grade will be celebrating *Posados* to explore how advent is celebrated in Hispanic countries.

FOURTH AND FIFTH GRADE

by Ty Birkenbaugh

The fifth grade class and the fourth grade class went on a field trip during December. They went to the play *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever* in Wichita. After this they went to Kapaun Mount Carmel in Wichita to look at all of the Father Kapaun relics. Father Kapaun is the Servant of God who served as an Army Chaplain during the Korean war. His death after protecting

and raising the spirits of other prisoners of war has inspired many people.

MIDDLE SCHOOL

by Alex Schreiner

The middle school has been using the "Get Smart" series to learn to diagram sentences. "I am really impressed with how much the students have learned so far," said Mrs. Tetrick. Having a good understanding of sentence structure will help us with our reading and especially with our writing.

In science we did a experiment on how a candy cane is affected over time within different substances. We used hot water, cold water, and vinegar. In cold water the candy cane stayed about the same, in hot water the candy cane completely dissolved, but within vinegar it was almost completely dissolved.

The middle school students have been reviewing for tests using "Numbered Heads Together" in Mr. Marks' room this December. Mr. Marks learned this at the Kagan training in November. Students work together as teams to make sure that everyone knows the answer. Then they discuss the right answer.

CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

by Ashton Thimesch

The Christmas Program was on Wednesday, December 13th at 7:00 P.M. in the Kingman High School auditorium. Students sang in several groups: (see back)

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CHRISTMAS PROGRAM (CONTINUED)

by Ashton Thimesch

Preschool, K,1&2, 3&4, 5th grade, and middle school. The choir sang "A Time for Advent". A lot of songs sang were "mashups" of classic Christmas songs. Each group sang one sacred and one "fun" Christmas song. At the very end, the Kindergarten class did a living nativity while the choir sang "Joy to the World."

