



MGC K4 News January 2018



It seems almost unbelievable that it is already January, and that the first semester will end this month. The saying goes “time flies when you’re having fun”! It is just amazing to watch your children grow and learn. January seems to be almost as busy as December. Please read below to find out the K4 curriculum highlights, homework, and special days for January. KidMail will update you on important school information along with the exciting details for Catholic Schools Week that begins January 31. A blessed New Year to you and your family! If you have any questions or concerns, I can be contacted by e-mail or phone: kunstmann@mgcparish.org or 414-442-7600 ext.118.

Language Development & Communication

In January we will continue to work on the weekly letter, sound, and action. We will identify and print the upper and lower case letter and learn the sound through our poem and action, books, and practice. Please continue to reinforce the letter and sound at home. Repetition is important for success. The literature focus and journal writing will be cross-curricular. Book topics will include snow, winter, Martin Luther King Jr., similarities, differences, love, and peace. We will discuss the main idea of the story and make connections to our lives, other texts, and the world around us. We will end the month with “The Queen’s Question.” The students will help decode and read the question. The children will answer the question by putting their name in the yes or no column. We will also create another class book. *Children, Children, What Do You Hear?*

Weekly Letter:

January 3-5: Yy
January 8-12: Nn
January 15-19: Qq
January 22-26: Jj
January 29 –Feb. 2: Mm

Cognitive Development

Mathematical Thinking

In math we will continue to use our *How many children are here?* chart and calendar. We will use the vocabulary; what number comes after and focus on the fact that the next consecutive number is one more. We will work on number recognition and printing numerals 1-10. We will read charts and figure out which column is more/less comparing numbers and using one to one correspondence. Small group math centers will include shapes, numbers, and matching games.

Scientific Thinking

We will do a class experiment with snow, ice, and water. The children will make predictions, observations, and dictate their findings and explain why as we investigate what happens when snow is brought indoors and water is taken outdoors in winter and also put in the freezer. Science centers will change mid-January from feeling textures to investigating the sense of sound by matching sounds and using instruments to create different sounds.

Faith Development

During the first two weeks of January we will retell the nativity story and learn about Mary and Joseph taking baby Jesus to the temple. We will thank God for keeping His promise and sending us the gift of His Son, Jesus. We will learn that Jesus was part of a family just like we are. The rest of the month will focus on following God's rules and showing God's love to others by listening, following the rules, helping others, and sharing.

Social/Emotional Development & Diversity in Learning

Our social teachings will focus on the rights and responsibilities of all human beings as we learn about Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. We will go through the steps of peaceful problem solving and discuss the importance of treating all people fairly no matter who they are or how they look. Our service for January/February will be incorporated into Catholic Schools Week. Please read KidMail for the details.

Creativity

Snowmen, snowy day pictures, and shapes will be part of our creative art this month. Journals and a class book will also be incorporated. Sensory materials will include snow and **goop!** The easel will be open for creative painting. The dramatic play center will be transformed into a Doctor's Office.

Important Dates

- **January 3** School resumes
- **January 15** No School Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday
- **January 19** Field Trip
- **January 19** End of second quarter 11:30 dismissal
- **January 23** Family Lunch
- **January 28 - February 2** Catholic Schools Week

January Homework

- Work on naming, printing, the action, and sound of the weekly letter
- Help your child to name things and recognize words that begin with the weekly letter. To help them make the connection exaggerate the initial sound, (ttttt- turtle, tub, tongue, two)
- Practice name printing
- Read books to your child every night to foster the joy of reading and beginner literacy skills.
- Count rote to at least 20
- Count objects 1-10
- Identify numbers 0-10 and practice printing them.
- Play something with your child each day.

Happy New Year!

