



# MGC K4 News

## March 2018



March is here! We hope to say good-bye to winter and welcome back spring this month! It seems every month is busy, and March is no exception. We are in the season of Lent. This month we will begin a Bear unit that will include teddy bears, real bears, Goldilocks and the Three Bears, and an indoor teddy bear picnic. You will receive a note about the picnic when it gets closer. Congratulations to Ar' Mani and Antonio! Both students have read over 100 books so far this school year. Hopefully more children will attain the 100 books read goal before the last day of K4. Please read the K4 curriculum highlights, homework, and special days for March. KidMail will update you on important school information. If you have any questions or concerns, I can be contacted by e-mail or phone. [kunstmann@mgcparish.org](mailto:kunstmann@mgcparish.org) or 414-442-7600 ext. 118.

### **Reading/Literature/Lang. Arts**

We will continue to work on the “letter of the week.” Please practice letter recognition and sound reproduction with your child. The children have been enjoying reading the daily question. It gives them practice naming letters and reproducing sounds. We are stretching words in the decoding process. Literature this month will focus on bears including the classic, *Corduroy* by Don Freeman. The fiction texts will foster the ability to retell the story using the terms: beginning, middle and end, and answering questions about key details, the characters, and setting. Non-fiction texts will include books about real bears. The children will practice speaking and listening skills as they name and present their teddy bear to the class. Journals will have an emphasis on dictating a complete sentence and/or a story with description and details. We will also be discussing real and not real or pretend stories as we explore fiction and non-fiction books during our bear unit.

### **Letter of the week:**

March 5-10 Oo  
March 12-16 Kk  
March 19-23 Ss  
March 26-30 Cc

### **Cognitive Development**

#### **Mathematical Thinking**

The calendar will continue to be part of our morning routine along with reading and comparing the Queen’s Question graph. We will learn number poems for 0-9 and begin printing the numerals. Math centers will include a variety of activities with teddy bears: counting, adding and subtracting, comparing, and sorting.

#### **Scientific Thinking**

The students will have opportunities to compare and measure weight with balance scales. The students will also compare brown bears, black bears, and polar bears naming the similarities and differences. There will be a STEM activity that coincides with the story of *Goldilocks and the Three Bears*. The children will be challenged to create a stable chair in the block

area. We will welcome in Spring at the end of the month.

### **Faith Development**

The main focus for March will be Lent. During Lent we will have a minute of silent prayer each day. We will also work on being kind to our friends along with saying "I'm sorry" and forgiving as Jesus forgives us. We will read Bible stories from the New Testament. The stories will focus on the ministry of Jesus leading up to Palm Sunday. The children will learn about the Last Supper and Good Friday. We will briefly discuss Easter. However, we will celebrate Jesus rising from the dead and Easter as the celebration of new life after we return from break in April.

### **Social/Emotional Development & Diversity in Learning**

We will continue to work on our manners, social skills, and being peaceful and respectful to one another. We will discuss the importance of making good choices and the consequences of making bad choices. This month I will be having high expectations for the students. Class rules will be reviewed and enforced. The children will be expected to raise their hands and wait to be called on before speaking during group time, and sitting and listening attentively to whomever is speaking. Good work habits and responsible behavior will be expected during specials and small group center time.

### **Creativity**

This month students will have an opportunity to make and name their own teddy bear and paint bear tracks. The easel will be open for a variety of painting and the dramatic play center will have teddy bears and books.

### **March Homework**

- Work on naming, printing, and the sound of the letter of the week.
- Play games with letters and sounds for practice, review, and mastery.
- Read books to your child every night to foster the joy of reading and early literacy skills.
- Ask your child questions about the text? Ex. Who was the story about (character)? Where did the story take place (setting)?
- Ask for specific details in the text. Ex. What was the boy's name?
- Play with rhymes using real words and silly made up words.
- Count rote to at least 20.
- Recite number poems.
- Play math games, counting objects, and recognizing numerals 1-20.
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### **Important Date**

- **March 9** 11:30 dismissal  
Teacher in-Service
- **March 14** Family Lunch
- **March 23** Teddy Bear Picnic & 11:30 dismissal  
End of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter.
- **March 29** 11:30 dismissal
- **March 30-April 8** Easter Break  
School resumes on Monday, April 9

