



Gainsborough Central Public School
JK News
December 2009 Newsletter
Mrs. Whitfield's Class

Dear Parents,

Although December is a shorter month with the Christmas holidays, we have some exciting things planned in kindergarten. Many Christmas stories will be read aloud. One story that we will be focusing on is The Gingerbread Man. The children will be given the opportunity to practice a literacy strategy of retelling with this familiar story. In Jolly Phonics, we will learn the letter Mm during the first week of December and then use the remaining weeks to review the sounds and letters we have introduced this year. The special helpers bringing in show and tell items during those review weeks will be able to choose from the sounds we have learned so far this year for their mystery show and tell. In mathematics, we will be measuring with non-standard units and ordering materials by length and size. Along with various crafts, the children will be learning about some elements of lines including curvy, zigzag and straight lines. The Junior Kindergarten children will also be singing different festive songs, two of which will be performed during our Christmas concert. They will also have an opportunity to play with some musical instruments while keeping the beat to the music.

Welcome

Welcome to our new student, Krissy, whose first day with us will be December 4th!

Scholastic Book Order

If you are interested in ordering something from our Scholastic book order to be given as a Christmas gift, just send me a note to let me know and I will make sure that it is well wrapped up before it is sent home with your child. Scholastic book orders are due Tuesday, December 8th in order to receive the order before Christmas.

JK Parent Observations

In the first term, the Junior Kindergarten children's report involved having their parents observe them in the classroom setting. I enjoyed meeting with you and having you see your child in our classroom! Friday, December 4th concludes the last day of our parent observations. Next term, our Junior Kindergarten children's report will involve a checklist of skills in various areas of the curriculum.

Christmas Party

Friday, December 18th, we will be having a small class Christmas party. As indicated in the October newsletter, the following families are asked to send in treats/drinks for the party:

Treats (nut free) for 22 – Brooklyn, Cameron G. & Tom
Juice boxes for 11 – Cameron K. & David

Small treats are great as they are small children! I will provide the plates and the serviettes for the party. Please send in your treats/drinks in the morning of the party. Thank you!

Christmas Concert

The Junior Kindergarten children will be participating in the school Christmas concert which will be on Wednesday, December 16th at South Lincoln High School. We will be having our concert at South Lincoln this year to ensure that all of our families can be accommodated in the gym to watch the concert. The JK and SK classes will be performing together for the concert. I hope that you are able to come and see us! See the attached sheet with more information regarding the concert. Please have your child ready for the concert by **6:15** on December 16th at South Lincoln.

Christmas Gifts

Often, parents feel the desire to send in a gift to the teacher to celebrate the Christmas season. I would like to kindly request that you not do this as I feel that I am richly blessed enough already. However, if you would like to help some people in need, might I suggest that your child could contribute a small amount of money (\$2-\$5) so that we might collectively help some people who are truly in need. I would like to make a donation to World Vision which helps children and families in third world countries. During the Christmas season, they send different things that people in the third world can use such as things to help them make a small income or to be used as food such as hens and a rooster, or warm clothing. I have enclosed a copy of a page from World Vision website (www.worldvision.ca) showing some of the possible gifts. The money which is sent in to the class will be pooled together. I will then forward the money to World Vision. If we do not have enough for the smallest amount (\$35), I will add the money needed so that we can follow through on helping people less fortunate. If you are wishing to participate in this World Vision group gift, please send in your donations to our classroom by Wednesday, December 16th.

Extra Clothing

If your child does not have an extra set of clothes at school for accidents or for clothes getting wet or dirty, please send some in as soon as possible. Accidents are fairly common with young children, and it diminishes their embarrassment if there are clothes readily available. A couple of extra socks are also helpful with the wet, snowy weather on the horizon. Thank you.

I wish you and your family a wonderful Christmas holiday! School resumes for our JK students on **Tuesday**, January 5th, 2010!



Sincerely,
Heidi Whitfield