

NOVEMBER CALENDAR 2011

GOD CENTERED EDUCATION FOR LIFE

Dear Parents,

Next week we start our second quarter of Kindergarten. The time has gone so fast!! The students are definitely getting the routines down and are making nice progress. I am amazed at how well this class works together. It makes each day so much more fun! Another indication of their maturity for their age was their response to our trip to the fire station last month. Upon returning they said, "Thanks for planning that for us, Mrs. Geels!" I think that was a first for me! (Of course, I melted like a marshmallow inside!)

God definitely gave us glorious fall weather this year. But the Kindergarteners' excitement at the thought of snow reminds me that we'll probably be dealing with snow in the month of November. Practicing "how to do" snow pants, boots, winter coats, and mittens at home helps out for recess time at school. I always feel bad when they miss quite a bit of their recess time waiting in line for help from me. **Having as many of these items labelled as possible is very helpful!** I do encourage them to take many of these items home each day because they often need to dry for the next day of school. Students who have a second pair of snow pants and/or boots at home often leave one set at school overnight.

Our Fruit of the Spirit theme for the month of November is "Peace." Colossians 3:15 says, "Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful." In Bible we will be covering stories of Moses and the Israelites. We will continue to learn Psalm 100. We'll have a special Thanksgiving lesson on November 23.

The letters li, and Nn will be covered in penmanship and phonics. We'll spend the two days before Thanksgiving reviewing our letters. Be sure to ask your child about letters we have already studied in class. Make them aware of words and print that begin with that particular sound. Any home review would be great. By the end of November we should know Aa, li, Mm, Nn, Pp, Ss, and Tt and the sounds they make. They should be able to sound out (blend) words with these sounds (For example, any 3 letter word that you can make from these letters like tap, mat, sip.) They should know the following sight words: we, the, like, a, can, see, go, to, and have. **I can't stress enough how important it is to have your child practice the small books I send home each week until they can read them fluently.** Don't forget to ask them questions about what they are reading so that we can be sure they are also building their comprehension. I know the stories are short but even asking if they liked the story and why will give you an indication if they were connecting with the words and pictures. Remember, you are encouraged to keep these books in a special place at home for practice up until first grade.

In math we will finish working with the numbers 0-10, knowing the meaning of each number, and comparing numbers. Counting plates, spoons, etc. as you set the table is great practice.

Our theme for Show and Tell during the month of November will be to bring or tell something you are thankful for. Your child may also choose to show or tell something dealing with the first Thanksgiving or Thanksgiving traditions.

Our extra learning activities will focus on owls, Native Americans, and Thanksgiving.

Our school will have its first of three whole school reading weeks. Our first reading week will run from Nov. 14-21. Your child will be put on a team with a mixture of Pre-8th grade students. The minutes of each team are totalled and averaged to calculate a winner. A small reward is given to the winning team. A special reading slip is sent home for this week. Please return it to school on Tuesday, November 22. (Your child can also color in a turkey on our class slip for each 10 minutes of reading) Watch the home bulletin for details and activities.

We will continue with our Pizza Ranch reading program this month. The Kindergarten reading goal each week is 50 minutes (approx. 10 min per night 5 nights per week). Remember, this includes time your child is read to or spends looking at books. Keep those slips coming in at the end of the month so you child can get their Pizza Ranch reward.

November 1: Letter/sound: i Sight Word: go
Memory verse: "Know that the Lord is God. It is he who made us and we are his." Psalm 100:3a
Show and Tell: **Macy**
Don't forget to turn in your reading minutes for the month of October.

November 2: Be able to tell the class as many words as you can that start with li. (short li or long li)
Be able to tell the class your favorite flavor of ice cream.
Show and Tell: **Makena**

November 3: Recite Psalm 100:1-3a
Have you been listening for owls??
Show and Tell: **Stephen**
Guessing Jar goes home with: Aidyn
Report cards come home today.

November 8: Review i and t Review see and go
Memory Verse: Psalm 100:3b "We are His people, the sheep of His pasture."
Show and Tell: **Tori**
Bring in a large paper grocery sack to make into an Indian vest on Wednesday. Please mark with your name.

November 9: If you forgot your grocery sack yesterday, bring it today.
Show and Tell: **Aidyn**
Parent/Teacher conferences

November 10: Recite Psalm 100:1-3
We will be having a special program in honor of Veteran's Day. Be able to tell what a veteran is.
Show and Tell: **Carson**
Parent/Teacher conferences

November 15: Letter/sound: n Sight Word: to
Memory Verse: Enter His gates with thanksgiving and His courts with praise; give thanks to Him and praise His name. Psalm 100:4
Show and Tell: **Dylan**
Are you reading for your team?

November 16: Today we will be celebrating Thanksgiving with our whole school Thanksgiving Dinner in the gym. Bring a heart full of thanksgiving and a big appetite! We will also be having a special reading activity to fire us up for our reading week.

Show and Tell: **Haley**

Be sure you are reading!

November 17: Memory Work: Recite Psalm 100:1-4

It's Newspaper Day! Bring a newspaper to school today. (Even an old Shopper will work for today's activities.)

Show and Tell: **JD**

How many minutes did you get for your team?

November 22: Memory Work: For the Lord is good and His love endures forever; His faithfulness continues through all generations. Psalm 100:5
Remember to return your team reading slip.

Show and Tell: **Keana**

Charlene Elyea will be coming to teach us about Owls.

November 23: We'll be doing Thanksgiving/Indian activities today.

We'll review the letters: Aa, Ii, Mm, Nn, Pp, Ss, and Tt. **Bring in one item that begins with one of these letter sounds. Don't tell anyone your secret sound! The rest of the class will need to figure out what sound your item begins with.**

Memory Work: Recite Psalm 100

November 24: No school. **Happy Thanksgiving!!**

November 29: Letter: **c** Sight word: **have**

Memory Verse: Luke 2:6 "While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born."

The K and 1st grade classes will give a small program at the Christian retirement home this afternoon at 2:30.

November 30: **It's Cookie Day. Please bring one cookie to school and ready to tell if it is your favorite kind or not.**

Thanks for your help this month! In counting my blessings this year, the Kindergarteners are high on my list! It is amazing how children bless our hearts. I'm so thankful for how far the students have come and for the spice they add to my day! Thanks for being great parents!

Mrs. Geels