

St. George Classroom News

November 2011



In our classroom this month...

We have been *Sailing the Seven Seas*. We turned our dramatic play area into an Ark with lots of animals on board. Carolyn and Katerina enjoyed sorting animals that should be in the ark and animals that should be in the ocean. Animals for the ocean were quickly thrown overboard. At exploration station everyone enjoyed our sink and float experiment and our classroom compass. After learning to find North, South, East and West, we all played the Equator Game. At the Tool Table we have been practicing using hammers and screw drivers. Soon we will be using these tools to build a boat. Since November 15 is the beginning of Advent, we created an Advent chain to count the days, and an Advent wreath to count the weeks till Christmas.

Ask your child...

How many days till Christmas? What is the equator, and how do you play the Equator Game?

Books we love...

This month the kids enjoyed listening to the story *Pirate Pete* by Kim Kennedy. My favorite was *Tough Boris* by Mem Fox. Boris is a Pirate who is rough, tough, grungy, and greedy, but when his parrot dies even Tough Boris is quite sad and he cries. He is really not so tough at all. As an added treat this month we got to watch the Veggie Tale story of Jonah. Everyone loved singing the music but were very concerned when Jonah did not listen to God and go to Nineveh.

Dates to remember:

11/23 - 11/27 – Thanksgiving Break
12/6 - Conferences
12/14 - Early Release Day
12/22 Birthday Party for Jesus

Try this at home:

Make an Advent Wreath with your family. Lay a wreath on a table in a special place where it can stay until Christmas. Place six candles around the center. Light one candle each Sunday before Christmas and one on Christmas Day. Each time you light a candle read a Christmas story with your child. A passage from the Bible would be great, (the Chapter of Luke verses 1:26 – 31, 1:39 – 42, 2:4-7, 2:8 – 12, 2:13 – 18, and 2:19-20) or you could try *The Stone* by Jude Daly or *The First Christmas* by Jan Pienkowski. Just a few pages or verses each Sunday will make Advent a time your children will always remember. Building traditions like this with our children keep us connected as a family and a church.

Homework:

Homework folders have started coming home on Fridays. Each week your child will bring home some homework. It will always be something that we have already tried in class and should be easy but most of all FUN! Try to have your child's folder back in school by the next Friday to get more homework and a sticker.

Looking Ahead:

In December we will be giving and getting **Gifts**. We will make mittens for our mitten tree, and give thanks for our gifts from God. We might even get some gifts from St. Nicholas.

