



# Kindergarten News January Edition



## Blending all the way!!

The children are really doing well with blending sounds. I think that sometimes they surprise themselves with the words they can read now! Continue to practice our word list as often as possible—the more they practice blending, the better they will get! We will also begin learning more Memory Words (words that cannot be sounded out, commonly called



**Pete is coming for a visit!!**

Sight Words). Some of these will come from our Superkid Books, but some will come from little readers that your child will bring home. Please make sure these go in to your Treasure Box, so that they can be read and practiced often! We are working very hard on our writing and letter formation. I see improvement in this area every time we write. As an additional aid to this,

and as a fun activity for the children, our class friend, Pete the Cat, will begin his "home visits". Starting Friday, January 20<sup>th</sup>, each child will have a turn at bringing Pete home to visit. Your child's work is to write down (with your help) Pete's adventures. Further directions are included in Pete's binder. Please make sure to send Pete back to school on the next school day. If you have any questions, do not hesitate to ask.

## St. Charles School

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### Dates to Remember:

- ☺ January 20<sup>th</sup>: Field Trip
- ☺ January 20<sup>th</sup>: Early Release
- ☺ January 23<sup>rd</sup>: No School
- ☺ January 29<sup>th</sup>: Catholic Schools Week Mass
- ☺ Jan 29<sup>th</sup>-Feb 4<sup>th</sup>: Catholic Schools Week!

## Kindergarten Talent Show 2016

The end of the Christmas season brings us back to working in our Religion book. Our next chapter focuses on God's creation of us. We will learn that each of us is a unique gift from God. One way God makes us special is by giving each of us talents, and we can praise God by sharing our talents with others. As an end to this unit, we will be having a Kindergarten Talent Show. The

date for our talent show is **Thursday, January 26<sup>th</sup>**. The talent show is for the students only--parents are not invited (sorry!). I will be recording the show, and it will be premiering during Catholic Schools Week. After that, each child will be bringing it home for your family to view. The talents need not be a huge thing! It can be something as simple as dribbling a ball, or singing a simple song.

If your child plays an instrument, or has an athletic talent that he/she can demonstrate, that works! Anything is truly possible, as long as it can be done in our classroom—help your child to think creatively! If you have any questions, please feel free to email me (msalmins@mystcharles.org) or give me a call.

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# Subtraction—take it AWAY!!

Chapters 2 and 4 are where we are at, after finishing our shape chapters, which brings us to the idea of comparing numbers, as I discussed last newsletter. After we finishing comparing numbers, we will then move into the ideas of **additions**



$$5 - 3 = 2$$

If I have 5 apples, and I give 3 AWAY, how many do I still have?

and **subtraction**. When we work on adding, we will talk about how we bring groups together. Subtraction, on the other hand, is taking things away, or comparing two groups to find how much there is of one kind in a mixed set.



If I have 3 flowers, and two MORE grow, how many do I have?

When we work on both of these concepts, the use of manipulatives will be very important. When you work with your child on these ideas, do not hesitate to use manipulatives, which can be anything—legos, pennies, candies, whatever you have on hand! We will also work on memorizing beginning math facts. This will be very helpful in first and second grade!

# Catholic Schools Week—We LOVE our school!

As I mentioned earlier, our Talent Show will premiere during Catholic Schools Week. This is the week we celebrate that we are able to be at a great Catholic school like St. Charles. We will have many fun activities

**CSW—Many fun activities rolled into one great week!**

that week,. You will be getting more information about this week later on; usually we have special dress days, and do fun group activities. It is a time to really think of how wonderful our school is, and it is because of

your hard work, time and dedication that make our school what it is. The more your share your time and your talents with our school and our children, the greater our school can be!

# Winter Wear

As you know, we go out at least once or twice daily for recess. With all of the snow, recess can be really fun for the children, but only if they are dressed appropriately! Please keep in mind, if we go outside in the morning, then your child is putting on wet gloves for lunch recess. The thin



**Dress for play. Feel free to send spare socks and mittens!**

"magic" gloves are not good for snow, and the children have very cold hands if that is all they have. Also, many times, snow gets in their boots, giving them wet socks. If I may, I suggest a few things:

1. If possible, send thick "snow" gloves or mittens for playing in the snow. An extra pair of gloves/

mittens is also not a bad Idea, if you have them!

2. Pack an extra pair of socks in your child's backpack. They are more then welcome to change socks after recess if their socks are wet—it can be very uncomfortable to sit in wet socks in shoes all afternoon.
3. Please teach your child how to pull their boots over their boots to help keep the snow out!

# Our Daily Healthy Snack

Thank you for your diligence in sending in snacks when it is your child's snack day.

Just a reminder that our daily snack must be a



Healthy snacks=happy kindergarteners!

healthy snack, as per our School's Wellness policy (no cookies, cupcakes, candy, etc). If you need ideas for healthy snacks, please let me

know and I am happy to give you some suggestions! Also, this is only meant to be a small snack-1 item per child is plenty, especially with their carton of milk!