



January 9, 2018

Mrs. Kuntz 4~2

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!

2018 has certainly been made its debut in a bold and blustery way!
May you be blessed with much peace, prosperity, good health and
happiness in this New Year!

We have much to look forward to in the days and weeks ahead.
Here is a look at what we've been up to in 4~2, and some plans for new
and exciting things to experience in each subject area this month:

LANGUAGE ARTS

Reading - We thoroughly enjoyed reading *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever* last month. This book was a catalyst for many great discussions about "not judging a book by its cover," and the fact that each of us is a precious child of God and deserves a chance in life. The Herdman children in the story seemed to be the "worst of the worst," but they were deeply, genuinely affected and their hearts were changed after hearing the story of the Nativity for the first time.

We will be returning to our reading series, *JOURNEYS*, next week to read a biography, *My Brother Martin*, about Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Later this month we will have some light-hearted fun with *Mr. Popper's Penguins*.

.....

Grammar - We completed our unit on **nouns** last week, and will begin studying **pronouns** this week.

Spelling - Now that we are well into our second trimester, our weekly spelling list will consist of twenty-five words. With lots of practice and a variety of activities, our spelling skills improve greatly by the end of the week. We enjoy playing "Sparkle" each Friday to review before our test!

Vocabulary - A new component to our language arts curriculum in the new year is our *Vocabulary Workshop*. Students received their new workbooks this week. Each week, usually on Wednesday, a new unit containing twelve words and their definitions will be introduced. Students will work independently to complete all four pages of the unit by the following Tuesday. We will then review and prepare for a test on these words by playing a rousingly fun game of "Partner Charades."

RELIGION

We have begun studying God's Laws of Love, **The Ten Commandments**. We know that God gave us these commandments to express His love and care for us, and that following them will help us to grow ever closer to Him. Each week, we will take a close look at one of the commandments. We will discuss how each commandment pertains to our individual lives and what changes we can make to try and follow it more closely with a desire to grow in holiness.



SOCIAL STUDIES

We have been learning about the many natural resources found in Pennsylvania and how they have contributed to our state's economic growth. We've discussed major environmental problems and concerns, and ways that we can help to protect and preserve our environment.

Students will have a new project coming up this month! They will become an advertising executive whose job it will be to create a brochure that will encourage tourists to visit one of Pennsylvania's state parks. Stay tuned for more information on this project coming home soon!

Looking ahead, we will begin to study the people who were the first Pennsylvanians. We will identify and locate some of the early Native American tribes in Pennsylvania, and compare and contrast the Iroquois and Algonquin-speaking tribes.



Homework Assignments

I do my best to update homework assignments on a daily basis through email. I encourage you to use this as a back-up. Your child should take seriously his/her responsibility for writing down each day's assignments and bringing home all necessary materials.

.....

We look forward each week to attending Mass in the gym with the rest of the student body. The next Mass that fourth graders are scheduled to lead will be on February 9th. Please consider joining us if you are able!



If you ever have any questions or concerns, the best way to contact me is through email at mrs.kuntz@stmmparish.org. I truly appreciate your continued, unfailing support!

God bless,
Mrs. Kuntz



Stay safe and warm!

