

## 2<sup>ND</sup> Quarter Preschool 3 Newsletter

As our second quarter of the school year wraps up, I just want to wish all the Pre3 families a Happy and healthy New Year. I hope 2023 is a wonderful year for everyone. I cannot believe we are already halfway through our school year. It feels like school just started a couple weeks ago. Our second quarter was filled with lots of holiday excitement. As we awaited the Christmas holiday, we learned about the true meaning of Christmas, Jesus' birth. Everyday we filled in our Advent calendars here at school, listening to stories about the birth of Jesus, and adding our stickers. We discussed how the stories relate to our own families and lives and how baby Jesus was like them. The pre3 students enjoyed learning all about the story surrounding the birth of God's son. We enjoyed many art projects with reindeer, Santa, Christmas trees, stars and lights.

We have really settled into our daily routine in our classroom at this point, and the Pre3 students have developed many friendships among each other. It is now second nature for them to come in, unpack their belongings and head to their morning centers. They have been working hard on tracing the letters in their names, and are beginning to write the first letters of their names on their own. They are practicing cutting and gluing, and properly holding crayons and colored pencils. In January we will be learning about Artic animals, hibernation, snow and ice. Our colors are blue and white, and our shape is a rectangle. February will be pink, red and hearts. March will be all about green, rainbows and St. Patrick's Day. We have much to look forward to in the next couple months.

The end of January will be an exciting time for the school with Catholic Schools week kicking off into the first week of February. Please join us for our Catholic Schools Week mass at 10:30 am on January 29<sup>th</sup>, followed by our school Open House from 11:30-1. The pre3 students have been working hard on art projects to decorate our classroom and they are eager to show off not only their art, but also their classroom to their families. This is a great opportunity for the families to see where their children work, play and eat everyday in Preschool 3. The week following this will be filled with many fun activities at school for our students to celebrate the wonderful Catholic school environment, and it is something we all look forward to every year!

Just a few friendly reminders, please make sure your child comes to school in a warm coat, a hat and mittens. Mittens are preferred over gloves because at 3 years old it is difficult for them to get gloves on themselves, and our goal is for them to learn to be self-sufficient, so making it as easy as possible is ideal. Unless it is below 28 degrees or raining/snowing, we will be going outside to play so warm winter gear is very necessary. The students in Pre3 have been doing an amazing job at dressing themselves, using the bathroom independently and getting the supplies they need for their work. I am so proud of the progress they have made. Thank you all for the work you have put into helping your children succeed in school. I hope everyone sees the maturity and progress your children have gained by being in preschool this year. As always, if anyone has any questions or concerns, do not hesitate to send me a message on ClassDojo or an email at [Palpinim@blessedsacramentholyoke.org](mailto:Palpinim@blessedsacramentholyoke.org). Do not forget to check in with our ClassDojo page for daily updates and important class information. Thank you!

God Bless,

Mrs. Maggie Palpini