

Newsy News

Conn-Area Catholic School



Out with the Old, In with the New!

As 2024 comes to a close, we find ourselves reflecting on the moments that shaped our journey, the challenges that helped us grow, and the successes that filled us with pride. One example of this is the annual principal's challenge. Already the fifth and sixth graders have completed this goal. All other grades are working hard to catch up. Thanks to all of you who contribute to this success. As we step into 2025, our focus will be for every student in every grade to meet the principal's challenge. There are many more successes and challenges that the students and teachers encounter every day. Together, we hope to make it a year of growth, innovation, connections. For now let's take this time to reflect on the birth of Jesus as we celebrate with our families. We are blessed to take this journey *Centered in Christ*. Have a very Merry Christmas and a happy New Year!



K

TYPICAL DAY

packed with wonder,
discovery, and joy

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ADVENT

listening, remembering,
and rejoicing

6

CHRISTMAS JOY

reading to the first
graders



Prayer Service



Thanksgiving
Parade



Giving Tree



Nutcracker

A Day in the Life of a Kindergartener



Our day begins with big smiles and warm welcomes as the little ones step into their classroom. The morning routine starts with prayers and messages from our principal, then into the room with a cheerful greeting circle where students share how they feel using words or gestures, setting a positive tone for the day. After that the calendar is updated. Play-based learning is a cornerstone of kindergarten life. From building with blocks to engaging in imaginative role-play, children develop creativity, social skills, and problem-solving abilities. Today, for example, the kids watched a candy cane disappear. No, they did not eat it. They made predictions and tracked its disappearance.

Each morning includes a mixture of structured and exploratory learning. Whether it's counting colorful beads during math, practicing letters with the Superkids, or engaging in a science activity like observing the candy care, every child gets hands-on experience.

Mid-morning, the kids gather for a healthy snack and a story. Today, we read about Junie B. Jones and her Secret Santa fiasco. The kids loved predicting what would happen next!

After lunch it's time to head outside! Whether it's running on the playground, drawing on the sidewalk, or playing a group game, outdoor time allows kids to burn energy, build friendships, and enjoy fresh air.

Post-lunch activities often include art. Today, students created Rudolph. Mrs. Hoffer has a special plan in mind for these reindeer.

As the day comes to an end, children participate in a reflection circle, sharing one thing they loved about their day. It's heartwarming to hear their favorite moments—from "playing house with my friends" to "learning about dinosaurs."

In kindergarten every day is packed with wonder, discovery, and joy. We're grateful to watch your little learners grow and thrive in this nurturing environment.

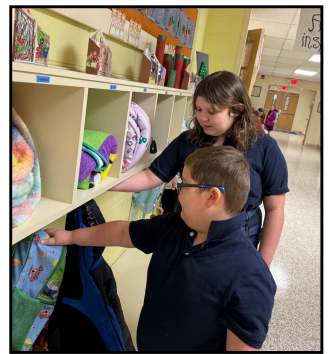


ADVENT - a time for *listening*, *remembering*, and *rejoicing*!

The third grade is focusing on service to others during this Advent season. Each week we light a candle on the Advent wreath and listen to a reading that gives us a special word to work on. We begin Advent by *listening* to our family, friends, and God. We will continue through the Advent Season by concentrating on *remembering* the blessings in our lives and the visible signs of God's love for use. We will end the season by *rejoicing* that God sent his only son to save us from sin and open the gates of Heaven.

The children have chosen something special that they are going to do this Advent season to bring them closer to God. Some are doing good deeds, praying more, or reading the bible. Whatever activity the students chose they know that it will bring them joy and happiness.

We hope that our Conn-Area Catholic School Family has a safe, happy, and blessed Christmas!



Advent

good deeds

praying

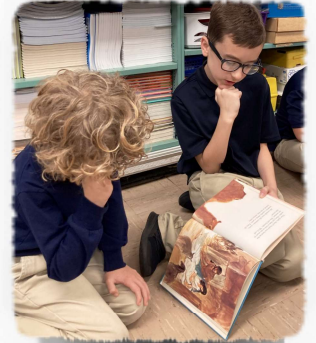
reading the bible

helping others

listening

counting blessings

rejoicing

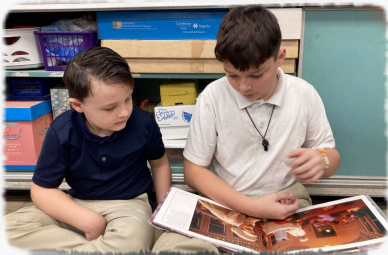


The sixth graders spread joy this Christmas season by reading to the first-grade students! First, they picked out Christmas picture books to read to the younger students. Then each student was paired with one or two first grade buddies. With their buddies, the sixth graders read such classics as *How the Grinch Stole Christmas*, *Twas the Night Before Christmas*, and the Nativity story. When they had finished reading their stories, it was time for the first graders to try! Helping their buddies, the sixth graders let the first-grade students read the Christmas stories aloud. Afterwards, the older students played a spelling game with their partners. The students had to rearrange letters in a Christmas word to make as many smaller words as possible. This was a great way for the older students to share their reading talents and to encourage the younger students to read during the Christmas break!

HOPE



PEACE



JOY



LOVE



