

After this first week of Advent activities and practicing for the Christmas Concert, it's hard to believe our Thanksgiving feast with the first graders was just last week! The highlight for me was the prayer service they planned. Ellyse read the opening welcome; I gave a brief history of the first Thanksgiving, then the children did their "Thank You, God" litany. The "Thank You God" pictures they brought home are what they said to the group. No one was nervous and all spoke loud enough for everyone to hear. (They had decided on 10 different things to draw.) We also sang two of their favorite songs. The games were fun, the food was great... a perfect feast in every way. Thank you so much for each of your contributions for the feast and also for the Salvation Army!

Our schedule has been different every day this week with concert practices and the jazz vocalist concert on Wednesday. We learned about beat and rhythm and heard Rachel sing several jazz songs for us. Your children were good listeners and I was proud of their manners... even when it got a little long for some.

Friday will be another exciting day, beginning with gifts in their shoes and a visit from St. Nicholas. Their 5th grade buddies will help them make Advent bell chains to help count down the days until Christmas. We also will have a Math Test over Chapter 6 which I will send home next week.

Thanks so much to Ben and his family for getting the "Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory" DVD for us to watch! I was amazed at the many comparisons they already made to the book with the 25 minutes we watched on Thursday!

Many of the children are having trouble zipping their coats so please reinforce them doing this themselves. Now that it's colder, they also need hats and gloves for recess. That wind can feel really cold!

Please add a flame to the Advent wreath, return the December Family Project on Tuesday, and plan to attend the Christmas Program on Thursday December 10 at 7:00 pm.

Looking ahead... Our Christmas party on the 22nd will be a "Polar Express" day with a gift exchange. Please have your child bring a \$5 gift for _____ by December 21.

Have a great weekend!

Norma Morrison
December 3, 2009