



Gehlen Gazette



What's Happening

December 11, 2009

**Forest Hills
Lutheran
School**

Dear Parents,

"Oh the weather outside is frightful"— thank goodness for the sunshine trying its best to warm our cheeks and noses! I really appreciate the way your children were dressed so warmly that we were able to enjoy some time outside this week even though it was chilly. Thank you for sending them "winterized."

We have had a great time traveling this week. Our Christmas Around the World took us to Sweden where we learned about the Saint Lucia celebration. We learned a poem about a Christmas candle and compared the light of a candle to our Savior who came to save us. We also traveled to Italy where they put up "ceppos" which are wooden trees with shelves to display the nativity. We listened to The Legend of Old Befana by Tomie dePaola. In this story, "Old Befana" visits children in Italy on the eve of the Feast of Kings (Epiphany) which is January 6th. We enjoyed the obvious twist this had on the traditional Santa story we are used to hearing.



Our sharing this week has added to our traveling fun. We learned about Christmas traditions in

Iceland, South Africa, Portugal, Thailand, Norway, Sweden, Germany, Romania, China and even the Antarctic! Several presentations have included photos, props, ornaments and decorations handed down in families. Thanks for your help with this. Since next week is packed with Christmas preparations and celebrations we will not have a sharing assignment until the second week in January.

During this Advent season we are reading through a new book in Religion called, Waiting. We also look forward to opening a new Christmas box each morning during our devotions time. In the boxes are pieces of the nativity story and in the last box we will discover *what God wants from us* at Christmas! This ties in nicely with a poem we learned called "The Gift" which talks about love being the greatest gift of all.

In math we are having fun with measurement. We have now moved into standard units of measurement (feet and inches) and are working with rulers.

Have a nice weekend. And may God bless you and your family during this time of anticipation and wonder!

—Mrs. Gehlen

Christmas Event

Our Christmas program, "Greetings From the Heart" is TONIGHT! Everyone has a special part to play so it's important to be there. Students should report to our classroom between 6:30 and 6:45 to get into costumes.



FOOD DRIVE!

Last day to bring in a food item is Monday. We will be accepting donations at the program this evening if you'd like to contribute.