

JANUARY

Things that we did the week of January 3

- Happy New Year!!! New things are happening in 4K all the time...new seats to start the month, new first morning routine (when we arrive we write our first names at the tables and then go to the board and write our name again without any help at all!), new letters, new themes, new numbers, new songs, new games, etc.
- We started the **New Year** off by having a spotlight Hello (a flashlight was shining on each student as everyone shouted Happy New Year! He/she then shook a New Year noisemaker, and shouted Happy New Year back to us again!!! It was a fun change to our regular morning greeting! We also got to play "Ring Around the New Year," sing several other New Year songs, and make a 2012 New Year hat.
- **Nursery Rhymes** were introduced this New Year. Each week two new rhymes will be introduced and practiced. A collection of rhymes will be saved for each child and at the end of the school year they will be able to take them all home. We all had fun with "Mary Had a Little Lamb" and "The Three Little Kittens".
- **Ww (WINTER)** is on our minds this week and month. The letter **Ww** was introduced with its sound and signs. We practiced tracing/writing **Ww**, did our **Ww** page for our alphabet book, and guessed what was in Mrs. Schaefer's Secret **Ww** Box. We learned a really funny song called "**Willaby Wallaby Woo**" – just ask me to sing it to you! We even got to go around the room acting like "**WILD THINGS!!!**" We'll be doing a lot of **Winter** exercises this month as well: a mitten match relay, several snowball hunts and relays too (that will be FUNI).
- Winter **Mittens** are our theme too. Because mittens are a must this winter season and the kittens lost their mittens in our nursery rhyme next week we will continue with a story called The Mitten by Jan Brett. If you have never read this story it is definitely worth checking out at the library! We'll continue in our classroom with many mitten projects, mitten number/dot counting, and we'll be playing mitten memory game. (Remember to send those mittens and boots!) to school each day because we never know if we'll squeeze in some outside free play time - Thanks!)
- This new month brings us a new number too: **Number 6!!!** Counting, tracing, and writing are some important skills we will work on. We'll also do our #6 fingerprint page for our number book. We'll continue working with #6 throughout the month as well.

OUR PROJECTS

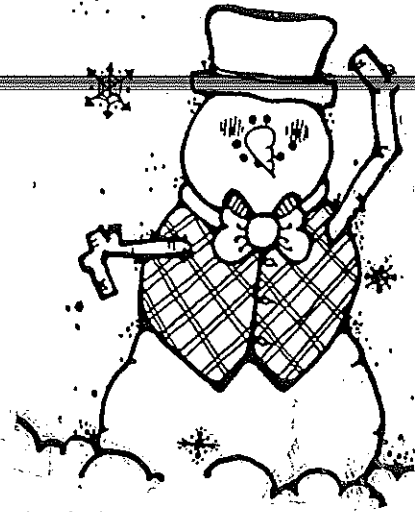
Happy New Year hat
Cotton ball "little lamb"
Three Little Kittens "Mitten"
Snowglobe
Winter Soup
Ww if for Walrus
Watercolor Ww ABC page

OUR BOOKS

Where the Wild things Are
Walruses
Cold Weather



Ice Is Nice
Animals in the Winter
There Was A Cold Lady
Who Swallowed Some Snow
Snowmen At Night
The Mitten
Mary Had a Little Lamb
The Three Little Kittens



DATES TO REMEMBER

- January 20 **4K FIELD TRIP** La Fleur's Gymnastics/Slinger Piggly Wiggly
- January 23 **No School** (Teacher In-service/Workday)
- January 26 **4K Report Cards** sent home
- February 2** **Parent/Teacher Conferences** 4:00 – 8:00 PM
(More information will be sent home soon.)
- February 6** **The 100th Day of School!**
- February 16** **10th Annual CHILI OPEN**
WE HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!

Thanks to **Aubry** (AM class) and **Samantha** (PM Class) for bringing in Wednesday's Special Snack! It also happened to be **Aubry's** GOLDEN birthday!!!

Our parent helpers this week were: **Brenda Conley, Nicole Hill, and Becky Uhlman.** Extra help in the classroom is truly appreciated! We can't thank our parent helpers enough!!!

SPECIAL NOTES

* **WELCOME Mckayla Schmitz** and family to Neosho School! Mckayla has joined our PM class. She has been a wonderful addition and we are so happy that she is here!!!

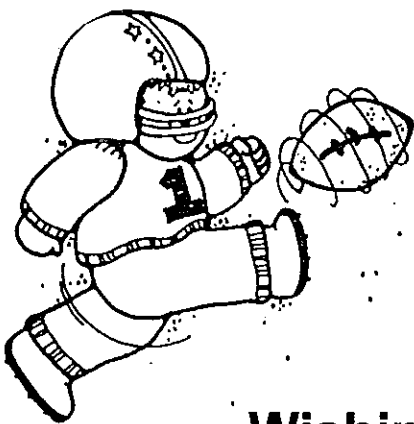
* As we came back from vacation we were very excited to talk about our first measurable **SNOW** of the season! It wasn't the "**BIG ONE**" yet, but we were happy to get the chance and go outside and play in it this week at school. Now that winter is officially here many questions have come up... When does 4K go outside? Do they need snowpants, boots, etc. everyday? Can we leave items at school? The best answer I can give is to

~~always be prepared. 4K does not go outside very often in the winter~~
(mostly due to the fact that it takes a bit of time to get dressed in all our gear and our time at school is limited), but if there is a nice snowfall and temperatures are not too bitterly cold, we will try to sneak out once in a while. I agree it is a pain to haul all that snow gear each day. Some children are leaving an extra pair of snowpants at school. If that is the case though, and we go outside, they will come home with everything on. Just send it back the next day and we will continue to keep it at their locker. Labeling any items is also appreciated! Our school rule is that no one is allowed in the snow (off the blacktop) without boots AND snowpants. Again, the best answer I can give is that it's best to be prepared.

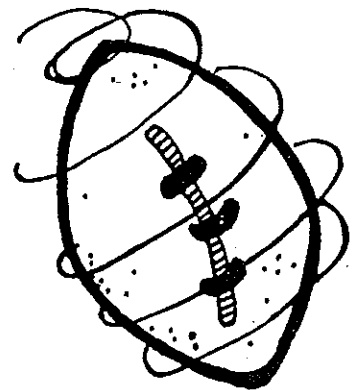
* Our **January Field Trip** has been officially planned! We are all excited to go to LaFleur's Gymnastics in Germantown and Slinger Piggly Wiggly. The **AFTERNOON CLASS** will be attending the **AM SESSION ONLY** that day. Please note the time change as we will be returning between 11:15-11:30 AM.

* **DAY 100** is getting close! Please read the sheet sent home Friday and if you have any questions don't hesitate to call.

* Our first **Report Card** and **4K Conferences** are just around the corner. Since conferences are by teacher request for Grades 5K-8 the time is only scheduled from 4:00-8:00 PM on February 2nd. I do not feel I will be able to fit everyone in that night so I will be offering some daytime slots to hopefully be filled in as well. They will probably be from 11:00-11:50 AM that week before. Look for the schedule sign up soon so you can plan ahead!



HAPPY 2012
and
WELCOME BACK
to
SCHOOL!!!



Wishing you all a GREAT weekend!