

FAW Friday News
December 9, 2022



Dear Father Andrew White Families,

It's that time of year, where patience can be a virtue that we need to practice! Children need to practice patience as they wait for Christmas and for the attention of busy parents! Adults need to be patient with children as their minds are full of many tasks to be accomplished! Let us all practice together and grow in this virtue!!

So many great experiences happened this week! We continued our Jesse tree journey this week, learning about King David, Ruth, Esther, Isaiah and the Ten Commandments.

There were lots of writing activities! PK students wrote to Santa, Kindergarteners gave a Christmas message using their feet, and first graders wrote about what their teacher may want for Christmas! Second graders created snowman glyphs and art inspired by St. Gregory. Third graders made St. Nicholas day messages for the staff members, and wrote how they could be more like St. Nicholas by helping the poor, forgiving people, praying and giving more than you receive.

Fourth graders wrote about how they can show peace to others. They mentioned that we should say kind things, not fight, play with others who are all alone, praying and going to church.

The fifth grade class made cards for the Missionaries of Charity who will give the cards to the poor that they serve in Washington, D.C. along with other items for Christmas. Sixth and seventh grade Literature students read "The Necklace" and wrote a one-pager about the text. They learned that you should always tell the truth and not to be greedy. Eighth graders wrote "My Christmas Wish List for the World." Some common themes were wishes to end all wars, for all Catholics to go to Church, for people to respect one another and cures for various diseases.

The new pottery kiln was fired up and Mrs. Gavin's elective class created ceramic angels! Santa's shop was a favorite of the students as they were able to have a one stop shop for all of their Christmas presents! Thank you to Mrs. Greer and her team of volunteers for such a successful day!

Lastly, the Christmas pageant was wonderful! There is no way to describe all of the behind the scenes logistics, practice and coordination of many moving parts to create a performance with all of these grades!! We are so proud of the work, efforts and flexibility of all of the staff who ensured that the evening was as special as we experienced. A very special thank you to Mrs. Cacko whose expertise and enthusiasm created a memorable evening!

On one other note, our school is forming a Strategic Planning Committee to formulate a five year strategic plan. We are requesting input from families. Is there something that you would like to see integrated into the Father Andrew White School? Is it an educational initiative, a facility upgrade or an extracurricular activity? What about something that our parent community can assist with? We would like to hear from you! If you have an idea for our five-year plan, please email your idea to office@fatherandrewwhite.org. Please notate *Strategic Initiative Idea* in the subject line. Thank you for your input!!

Happy Advent! If you can, attend one of the FAW Basketball games on Saturday! Please take your child to church this weekend! We are looking forward to next week with your students!

Janet Szoch

Principal