

St. Anne's Learning Update

December 5th - 16th

No updates for previous week when Miss Murphy was ill. Sorry!

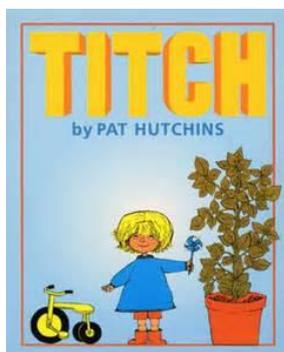


Catechism: Beginning the preparation for the Nativity of Our Lord, we took up again the history of our salvation, remembering the fall of man and its evil fruits (of which the littlest children know only some, namely, death and the closure of Heaven to man.) On the feast of the Immaculate Conception, we remembered God's promise to our first parents after their sin: the prophecy of a woman who would crush the head of the serpent. On the week after, the children learned that Our Lord Jesus, born on Christmas Day, is God made man to re-open the gates of Heaven. Time is a concept which presents some difficulty for the children, of course. They who are only learning what "yesterday" means must begin to grasp that God the Son always was...if the concept of time is complex, mystery is accepted without question by children.

Our Prayer for the season of Advent and of Christmas: Dear little Infant Jesus, come and be born in my heart. Come to root out the sin and plant Thy virtues there.



Pencil grip work and initial sound sorting prepare the youngest students for reading and writing. Actually, children enter the early years classroom with various levels of exposure to letters, books and writing, so all children have an individual plan for learning.

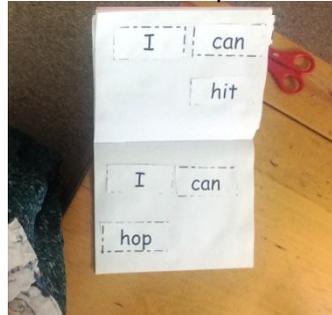


Poor old Titch, youngest, shortest and with the least exciting things to do, was a great hit with the children....and a fun way for Miss Murphy to sneak in lots of comparative language while telling a story, heehee. Afterwards we measured ourselves and stuck our names on the bulletin boards. We'll see how much we have grown in Spring.

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Year Reception pupils are beginning to read their first captions and sentences.



We discovered three-dimensional (solid) shapes around us, shook up the rice jar to find them, looked for them in the feely bag (no peeking!) We enjoyed testing whether or not they could roll or slide using a ramp. We are getting quite professional at describing shapes using the terms flat, solid, faces, corners, edges....

Every week all the Infants get together at St. Anne's for an afternoon of music. We have been working on singing and playing *The Little Drummer Boy*. The children enjoyed exploring the sounds of the bells.



They learned to identify some notes using the rhythm names ta, tati, too.



We did lots of work on materials, making our own playdough and designing our own floating boats. We enjoyed talking about the feel of the dough (stretchy, sticky), mixing food colouring to the shade desired and kneading the dough with our hands.



Afterwards we made buns....of course!

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We designed floating boats. We discovered that when making boats from clay, it was the height of the sides which determined whether or not the boat would float or sink.

God Bless and Happy Christmas from St. Anne's, Miss Murphy

