

All Saints' Day School

❄️ Learning Through Play Since 1969

❄️ January 2020 ❄️

1969 Woodside Lane · Virginia Beach, VA 23454

(757)481-0577, ext. 3

allsaintsdayschoolvb.com



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Christmas Program

The ASDS children gave their very best effort in putting on a show to remember for their families! Dana, our music teacher, and Mercedes, our Spanish teacher, collaborated with our teachers to have the children perform both in English and Spanish. The teachers and children worked very hard all throughout December to practice and I think it paid off! I hope you all enjoyed the show as much as we did. Thank you, Dana, Mercedes, and the entire ASDS staff for working so hard on this event.



Your newsletter editor begs your forgiveness for any mis-matches or omissions of classes in the pics above. She cobbled them together from a variety of sources.

Setting Your Child Up for Success



What is the difference between Jr. K and Pre-K?
As your 2020-21 Registration Form says: Jr. K is "a class for age-eligible students (4 by September 30th) who will be good Kindergarten

candidates the following school year." Transitional K is "Transitional kindergarten is a school grade that serves as a bridge between preschool and kindergarten, functioning to provide students with time to develop fundamental skills needed for success in school in an age- and developmentally-appropriate setting."
Teachers Marianne and Cathy plans to expand these brief definitions and share how placement recommendations will be made for the fall of 2020 at a session held on Tuesday, January 7th @ 8:30 a.m. in Baines Hall. If you feel that your child is a candidate for either of these classes, or you are just looking ahead to when s/he is, please plan to join them immediately following drop-off.

Holiday Gift Shop Success!



The children were all business when it came to choosing just the right gifts for their families! Thanks so much, Liz Flowers, for overseeing this special event and all of Santa's best elves who assisted: Courtney Kelly, Lindsey Johnson, Chris Slye,

Katie Davenport, Courtney Coster, Jess Masciangelo, Brooke Brooks, Nancy Browne, Priscilla Gunter, & Alex Fleear. Thank you all for sending in the merchandise! I can't wait to hear about what your children chose for you!

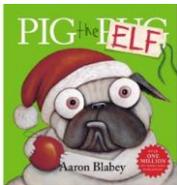


AR Workshop Fun!

Holly Herndon, Paige's mom and owner of AR Workshop, hosted a fundraising event for ASDS at her shop. Although the group was small, the fun was big! It was so exciting to (somewhat) build and create a wooden creation for our homes. Many thanks to Holly for letting us have this event at her store and hopefully we can host another one in the near future!

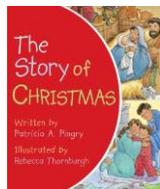


Chapel



December's main focus was preparing the students for the big show. We read the books Pig the Elf by Aaron Blabey, the absolutely gorgeous Robert Sabuda pop-up book, The 12 Days of Christmas,

and The Story of Christmas by Patricia Pingry. We also wished a happy day to our December birthdays: Teacher Marianne, Landon, Wyatt, Olivia, and Ford.



In the kitchen, we made our hand squeezed "We Love Christmas Lemonade" for L week. We then made "Merry Christmas Monkey Bread" for M week. The lemonade was liked by even our fussiest five-year-old critic, and the monkey bread was probably one our most liked creations so far. All the recipes will be coming home in May in our A-Z Cookbooks.



In Science, we learned about circuits using Christmas lights (light for L) and a variety of batteries. The children learned they could open and close a circuit by closing the circle of wires to the positive and negative poles on AAA, AA and 9V batteries. The kids also experimented with how bright they could make the light depending on the power of the battery. We discussed and journaled our findings in our science notebooks which will also come home in May.

During M week the children had a blast experimenting with magnets and jingle bells. They explored the power of various magnets, how many jingle bells they could pick up with just one magnet, how many bells they could get out of a plastic bottle just using the magnets, what objects were attracted to the magnets; as well as, why sides of each magnet either repel or attract.



Guided drawing is a good way to teach children to follow directions, be patient, practice fine motor skills and build self-confidence when they see their final products. For

Christmas the kids were able to draw a reindeer and Santa. It's awesome to see the variety in the children's art work, as well as, the maturity in their art just since September.



One of the highlights of December was our Polar Express Day, which we celebrated with the Sea Otter Class. When the children arrived to All Saints' in their PJs they were given a golden ticket to board the Polar Express train and they listened for the train whistle to know where on the train they could travel to. On the train, the children from both classes made ornaments, played with snowballs, did puzzles, made jingle bell necklaces, played snowball tic tac toe and jingle bell pong. A wonderful time was had by all. A big thank you to all the moms and dads who came to school to help guide the children through the various centers.






From the Classrooms






Ms. Cathy & Ms Elaine

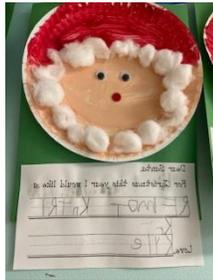
December in Kindergarten has been all about Christmas. We have had so much fun making several ornaments, baking tasty treats, playing with Christmas lights, jingle bells, and singing some of our favorite carols.

I trust that all of our families had a very Merry Christmas as well as a Happy and Healthy New Year.



Ms. Marianne & Ms. Teresa

December was full of merriment and excitement in the Sea Otter Room! We started out the month by learning about Santa Claus, engaging in letter L learning activities and making lots of Santa-themed crafts. During our Santa-themed week we practiced sounding out words and wrote letters to Santa. This was our very first time sounding out and writing words on our own. I was so impressed at how our friends were able to listen to each sound in the words they wanted to write and practiced forming the corresponding letters on their own. We practiced using our fine motor skills and sewed stockings, which we put out in our cubbies on December 5th in hopes that St. Nick would fill them with goodies on his feast day, December 6th. The class was so excited to see that St. Nick paid them an early visit and stuffed their stockings with little toys and candies.



The second week of December was equally as exciting as we learned about reindeer, the letter M and engaged in fun Rudolph and Christmas themed learning activities. One

of my favorite projects that we made was a review focusing on the color sight words and students' names. The students were encouraged to be creative and make a reindeer with a nose of any color they chose. Then, they named the reindeer. For example, one student wrote that her reindeer was Ayla the red nose reindeer. We learned how to do the reindeer "hokey-pokey" and painted mistletoe balls with marshmallows. We engaged in a marshmallow taste test and recorded and compared who likes marshmallows and who in the sea otter class does not like marshmallows.



While the third week of December was only three days long, we still managed to pack in parties, science experiments and a program! On Monday, the Sea Otters reviewed

patterns by completing a repetitive sequence of

Christmas images. They reviewed density with a fun sink or float hot cocoa experiment. During the experiment the Sea Otters examined marshmallows, chocolate chips, whipped cream, chocolate syrup, and peppermints and made predictions of these items would sink or float. We were all surprised that the only item that floated was the whip cream. Then, we enjoyed our hot cocoa while we read the Polar Express.

Tuesday morning was our big Polar Express party with Teacher Cathy's class. Each student was greeted with a golden ticket and sound of a train whistle. Then, students had the choice to put together Polar Express puzzles, ornaments, play a jingle bell or snow ball toss game, work together to put together a train set, or make jingle bell bracelets. The classes had a blast! We were so fortunate to have parent volunteers who came in to help with each center. Having parent volunteers allows parents to engage with their child and their child's friends, promotes a positive image of school, and allows all of the students to have more attention at each center. Then, after our party, the Sea Otters learned about sound and engaged in a fun S.T.E.M challenge where they were provided with a ton of soft materials, a jingle bell and a box. The challenge was: Can you silence a jingle bell? The class learned that without two materials touching, or unless an object is still, it does make a sound.

Last, but not least, Wednesday was our school program followed by a cookie decorating party in the classroom. Our Sea Otters did an amazing job! We are so proud of our class and their accomplishments in 2019, and are equally excited to see what the New Year has in store for us!



Ms. Susan & Ms. Julie



The Stingray's did a wonderful job singing in our Christmas Program! They followed directions, listened well, and sang beautifully! Our students practiced super hard for our All Saints' families. Our Christmas Party was so much fun. Thanks to Jenni It was a great way

to wrap up the year 2019!

We finished up the letters Hh, and Jj, and then we reviewed the letters Aa-Jj. We have been practicing writing our first names and writing our letters. We practiced cutting by cutting



up wrapping paper. The Stingrays are super great at counting by tens. We are still continuing counting down 100 days of school and working on counting by 5's. We created beautiful wreaths, Christmas Trees, and wonderful Christmas presents for our families! We hope all of our students have had a wonderful holiday season and that we are "rarin' to go" in 2020!



★ Ms. Sandra & Ms. Beth & Ms. Terry

Starfish students were busy during the month of December even though it was a short month for them. We started the month with a visit from the Gingerbread Man. Each day the Gingerbread Man left a note and a treat for the students. He gave them candy canes, gingerbread cookies, a new book for the classroom, and chocolate kisses. The children made gingerbread cookies out of Play-Doh™ and placed them on cookie sheets and put them in our play oven.



We read many versions of The Gingerbread Man, and the letter G was introduced that week. The children loved receiving gifts from the Gingerbread Man, but the second week of December, our class elf, Timmy, arrived. Each day he was hanging in a different place in our room with a note. The notes instructed the students to do acts of kindness throughout ASDS. They delivered cookies to the Sea Turtles and candy canes to the Dolphins, Stingrays, and Sea Otters. They made an ornament for the church's secretary, Mary, and gave it to her since she is always giving them stickers and treats. We had a day where we said many "pleases" and "thank-yous" and gave high fives to one another. Another day the children brought in a toy from home and shared it with their classmates. We had a checklist of kindness acts and each time we did one we would place a check next to it. At the end of the week Timmy left with the checklist to give to Santa to show him they were helpful and kind. In return, the following week Santa sent new toys for the classroom since they completed the tasks on the checklist. They received new dinosaurs, barnyard animals, and baby dolls. The letter E was introduced that week.



Pajama Day was a blast in the Starfish class. All the children looked adorable in their pajamas. We read and watched, Stickman, and ate a special snack.



Starfish children were top performers at our Christmas show this year. You couldn't miss them, because they had flashing Christmas light necklaces to wear. They belted out the songs that Teacher Dana taught them. After the big show, we went back to our classroom and had a cookie decorating party. With everything we were able to accomplish in the short few weeks of December, we were also able to review the shapes, numbers, and letters we have learned since September. We are looking forward to the New Year and continuing to watch the amazing progress of the Starfish students.

🐢 Ms. JoJo & Ms. Patsy

December was such a festive month for the Sea Turtles! We worked on the letters "Cc" and "Gg" and will review them, in addition to more letters, in January. We added green to our colors,



stars to our shapes, and the number 6 to our numerals. Our students practiced super hard for the Christmas program. They sang and learned the motions to their songs! We had fun decorating trees with fingerprints, painting and making

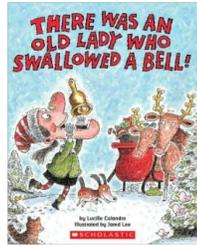
wreaths with bows, jewels, and sequins, making fruit cup ornaments, and cards made out of Christmas tree cut outs. We also painted "Gg" and gingerbread men and colored them as well. The students enjoyed decorating their frames as gifts for their parents. We hope the students like the books that they received for their presents.



Here are some of the books that we read this month: Santa Claus Funny Faces, What Santa Can't Do, Little Lamb's Christmas, and Santasaurus. Thank you for all that you do to support your child and us! We love our ASDS families! We hope you had a blessed holiday!

Library with Ms. Sandra

We read a few amusing books about Christmas and Santa Claus during December. I started off reading, There Was An Old Lady Who Swallowed a Bell, by Lucille Colandro. Yes, the little old lady is back, and she is swallowing Christmas items to help Santa make his way to all the children on Christmas Eve. She swallowed a bell, bows, a sack, a sleigh, some toys, and even reindeer.



Santa is in big trouble in the book, Oh, What a Christmas! by Michael Garland. Santa is out on Christmas Eve with his sleigh and reindeer when the reins snap and the reindeer take off without him. He crashes into a barn and convinces the barnyard animals to help him guide his sleigh to deliver toys to the good girls and boys.

My favorite Christmas book is Stick Man, by Julia Donaldson. Stick Man isn't an ordinary stick...he's a man, and he lives in



his family tree with his lady love and children of three. He goes for a jog one day and is mistaken by a dog as a stick. The dog picks him up to play catch. A girl throws into the river for a race. A swan swoops him up to make a nest. A dad uses him as a mast for a flag at the top of a sand castle. He is used for many purposes, including firewood, but Santa saves him on Christmas Eve and returns him to his family and tree.



Jingle Bugs and The 12 Bugs of Christmas are pop-up books that are fun to read during the Christmas season. The students enjoyed discovering a new type of holiday bug each

time the page was turned in each book.

Let's start 2020 off on the right foot and read to our children every day! Happy Reading!

Music with Ms. Dana

It was great to see families and friends at our Christmas Program on December 18th! We hope you enjoyed it. In December, the children learned the song "Wind the Bobbin Up". This is a fun way to learn about **tempi** or the different rates of speed in musical pieces. We sang the song several times, speeding up slightly each time.



*Wind the bobbin up,
Wind the bobbin up,
Pull, pull, clap, clap, clap
Point to the ceiling,
Point to the floor,
Point to the window,
Point to the door.*

*Clap your hands together, one, two, three.
Put your hands upon your knee, etc.*

Everyone enjoyed the game "Hop, Oh Squirrel". We talked about why squirrels gather nuts in the fall and then the squirrel puppet Skippy helped us explore different ways to move such as skip, gallop, hop, crawl, march, walk, and slide.

*Hop, oh squirrel
Deedle dum, deedle dum
Hop, oh squirrel
Deedle dum dee*



We also enjoyed clapping a steady beat to the Wiggles' song "Let's clap hands for Santa Claus" and dancing to "Henry's Christmas Dance".



You can find them here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QRUUU0xU2A8> and

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TZF3ZhHHugo>

I hope everyone has had a happy and healthy holiday. I look forward to seeing the children in 2020!



Español with Maestra Mercedes

December was all about singing! The children worked very hard preparing for the Christmas program. Our two songs "Buenos Dias" and "Feliz Navidad" were heard throughout the building! What an amazing job the children did with their Christmas program, I was very proud of all of them!



I read and we also sang along to Mi Burrito. This holiday book is based on one of the most popular

Christmas carols in Latin America: "Mi Burrito Sabanero" (The Little Donkey from the Savannah). This bilingual children's book follows the journey of a trotting donkey on his way to Bethlehem to meet baby Jesus.

<https://canticosworld.com/story/con-mi-burrito-sabanero/>

(Scroll to the bottom of the page.)

In addition to all of our focus on Christmas, we made time to review numbers 1-10 and colors.

Feliz Navidad y Prospero Año Nuevo to all!

Words of the month:

Feliz Navidad = Merry Christmas
Navidad = Christmas
Feliz = Merry and Happy
Burrito = Little donkey
Belen = Bethlehem



For The Fridge...

Date	Kids' Version	Event	Notes
January 2 nd Thursday			ASDS Re-Opens!
January 7 th @ 8:30 Tuesday		An Overview of the Sea Otter (Pre-K) and Dolphin (Jr. K) Classes	Teachers Marianne and Cathy will present on the differences between their classes for 2020.
January 8 th & 9 th Wednesday & Thursday		PATTCH COFFEES	Stop by after morning drop-off for a cuppa and to find out what 2020 holds for us!
January 20 th Monday		MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY	Federal Holiday ASDS is CLOSED
January 27 th Monday		Staff In-Service Day	ASDS is CLOSED to STUDENTS
February 3 rd Monday		ASDS 2020-2021 Registration Opens to the Public!	Lock in your days and special rate in January!
February 17 th Monday		Presidents' Day	Federal Holiday ASDS IS CLOSED



HAPPY NEW YEAR