



## *Merry Christmas!*

Dear Parents,

I have enjoyed celebrating the Christmas season with the children. We have had a wonderful 2012, and I am looking forward to a terrific New Year! Class will resume on January 9, 2013. Thanks again to all who helped with our Christmas party. I appreciate each one of you!

### **Bible/Character:**

- Character Study: December – Peacemaker – One who resolves disagreements and gets along with others.
- Bible verse to **memorize** by January 9<sup>th</sup>. **Ephesians 4:29**, “*Let no unwholesome word proceed from your mouth, but only such a word as is good for edification according to the need of the moment, so that it will give grace to those who hear.*”
- Something To Think About:** *unwholesome word* means foul or rotten/*good for edification* means instructive, encouraging, uplifting and suited for the moment/*grace to those who hear* means because believers have been saved by grace and kept by grace, they should live and speak with grace.
- Memorize** the following poem by **January 9<sup>th</sup>**.

A new year lies before you  
Like a field of pure white snow.  
Be careful how you walk on it  
For every step will show!  
--Author unknown

- Proverbs 20:11 says, “Even a child is known by his deeds, whether what he does is pure and right.” How would the above poem relate to this verse? Be prepared to discuss in class. ☺

### **History:**

- Read aloud to your child Chapter 20, pages 142-154.
- Complete the attached coloring page, “*The Cyclops.*”
- Use the attached Greek Alphabet to write your name. **Note:** The Greek alphabet is important to God’s unfolding of the gospel. God delivered the New Testament in the Greek language. The Greek language is a very precise language that the Holy Spirit used to communicate detailed ideas to the apostles.
- Please bring at least three 3x5 cards in a zip lock quart size bag to class each week.**

### **Narration:**

- Narration is retelling. After you have read the history assignment to your child, have your child tell you about what you’ve just read. Write his/her version down. The narrations are usually two to five sentences. Remember, they will draw, and you will write what they narrate to you. Then, you can let them try to read what you wrote back to you, since it is their own words. Please print like we are practicing. Narrate the stories of Homer in your story journal. **Sketch your own picture of Cyclops.**

**Literature:**

- The Temple Cat* by Andrew Clements – Read aloud pages 19-31.
- Reread the entire book. Enjoy reading the entire story. ☺
- Complete the attached comprehension worksheets.

**Language Arts:**

- Continue practicing your noun, verb and sentence jingles.
- First Grade English Workbook* – Complete Week 13.
- Complete the following English worksheets.
- First Language Lessons For the Well-Trained Mind* – Complete Lessons 26 & 27, pages 39-40. **Remember:** We are NOT memorizing the poems.

**Phonics:**

- Complete the attached Saxon phonics sheets. [Worksheets 59, 61, 62]
- Complete the attached phonics worksheets.
- Practice reading Decodable Readers 20 & 21.
- Extension: (Optional) You may color your readers NEATLY.
- Saxon Fluency Master 6:* Fluency masters provide additional practice to your child who may need more exposure to high-frequency words in order to learn them. We have practiced these words in class. Parents, please have your child read the words orally to you. You may want to put a “star or smiley face” in each section that he/she read correctly. This is great practice.

**Spelling & Dictation:**

- Spelling Words: See attached Spelling List 10.
- Challenge Words: January, Greece
- Write your spelling words NEATLY. Practice spelling your words orally with your parent.
- Dictation: Parents, do a different dictation each day. **Examples:** dictate their letters. Continue to use all the letters and spelling words they have learned thus far. Watch for correct strokes. Dictate the sounds of the letters and have them write the letter. Dictate their letters and ask for capital or lowercase. Dictate their new spelling words and sentences to them. Please pay attention to mistakes in spelling, capitalization, punctuation or failure to reproduce the exact words dictated.

**Penmanship:**

- Copywork:** [Worksheet Works.com] Look carefully at the word. Ask your child if he/she can sound out the word. Explain that this a nonsense word, made up for fun. ☺ Complete the attached *Copywork* worksheet.

**Geography:**

- Map Skills for Today* – Complete pages 26 & 27.
- Map work for history:
  1. On your map, find the country of **Greece** and color it green.
  2. Find **Mount Olympus** and circle it in red.
  3. Find **Troy** and circle it in blue. What sea did the Greeks cross to find the Trojans?
  4. Color all the islands of Greece in your favorite color. How many islands are there?

**Critical Thinking:**

- *Primary Analogies*, pages 21 & 22.

**Read Aloud:**

- Read a book of your choice aloud to your parent or your parent can read to you for 20 minutes each day.
- **Reading Paper Chain: (Optional)** Write the title and the author of the book on a strip of colored construction paper. (Encourage your child to do this for you.) Make the strips into a paper chain and hang it somewhere in your home. By the end of the school year see how long your chain has grown. Your child will be amazed to see how many books he/she has read. If your child read a chapter a day, they can add links also.

**Extending the Lesson (Optional):**

Corresponding literature suggestions for The Story of the World:

*The Wanderings of Odysseus: The Story of the Odyssey*, by Rosemary Sutcliff.

Fascinating and beautifully illustrated, but not long. Some scary pictures.

*Hour of the Olympics (Magic Tree House #16)*, by Mary Pope Osborne

*Warm wishes for a wonderful time  
Celebrating our Savior's birth!  
My thoughts and prayers will be  
With you that you may have  
A truly blessed Christmas.*

I have reviewed my student's work, and all assignments are complete as outlined on this assignment sheet.

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Parent's Signature