

# Due West UMC Preschool

## NEWSLETTER



### DECEMBER 2011 CALENDAR

- 1 Tuition and lunch bunch payments due
- 1-20 Hat & Mitten tree
- 1 Story Time—2-5s
- 2 Holiday Market recap meeting
- 5 No School for Mrs. Kehoe & Davalos
- 5 Preschool Board meeting
- 5 & 6 Tumble Time—1 & 2s
- 6 SCRIP orders due
- 7 Laminating Day
- 7 & 8 Speech Screening—2-5s
- 7 & 8 Music Classes—3-5s
- 7 & 8 Christmas Music Class w/parents—  
1 & 2s
- 9 Field Trip to Bethlehem Walk—4 & 5s
- 12&15 Spanish Classes—3-5s
- 13&14 Chapel—2s-5s
- 19&20 Christmas parties—all ages
- Dec. 21-Jan.9 No School “Merry Christmas!”
- Jan. 10&11 First days back to school
- Jan. 10-20 Registration for 2012-13 school year  
for current students and their siblings
- Feb. 4 Registration for church families  
& community families



### BETHLEHEM WALK FIELD TRIP AND CHANGE OF DAYS FOR MRS. DAVALOS & KEHOE

All of the four and young five-year-old classes will be taking a field trip to the Bethlehem Walk at Mountain View Methodist Church on Friday, Dec. 9<sup>th</sup>. This is a great way for the children to experience the Christmas story “in person” as they enter the village of Bethlehem and experience the people, shops, crafts, and the stable as they might have been at the time Jesus was born. Because this trip is on a Friday, **Mrs. Davalos and Mrs. Kehoe’s classes will meet Tuesday-Friday that week.**

The “Walk” is also open to the public. The dates and times are Dec. 3, 4, 9, and 10 7:00-9:00PM. Admission is free! This is a great family outing to keep the true meaning of Christmas a priority. The church is located at 2300 Jamerson Road, Marietta, 30066. Phone: 770-928-0050.

### CHRISTMAS MUSIC CLASSES FOR ONES, TWOS, AND PARENTS

Parents, please join us in the sanctuary of our building on Dec. 7<sup>th</sup> at 11:30am or 8<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 for 1s & Y.2s or 11:45 for O.2s for their special Christmas music classes. Mrs. Partin will lead the children and you in a typical music class with Christmas music and fun activities. We hope that everyone will be able to attend.

### SPEECH SCREENING

We will have a speech pathologist here at the preschool on Dec. 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> to screen children ages 2-5 for speech, language, and hearing. You have already received information in your child’s folder and you can send in the form and money up to the day of the screening. Contact your child’s teacher if you have questions about your child.



### HAT AND MITTEN TREE

We put up a Christmas tree in the middle of our hall. Please help us decorate it with new mittens and hats for the homeless children who visit MUST Ministries and The Giving Tree (an organization of the Cobb Co. PTA). Please help your child select a pair of mittens and /or a hat and we will help them place it on the tree. You can send in your donations from Dec. 1-20<sup>th</sup>. The children who receive them will greatly appreciate your generosity!





### **CHRISTMAS PARTIES**

All of our preschool classes will have a Christmas party December 19<sup>th</sup> or 20<sup>th</sup> (their last day at school that week). We would like the children to bring a gift for a needy child rather than having a gift exchange in the class so we can concentrate on the giving of gifts rather than receiving them. We would like to collect children's books, videos, and toys to give to the children in local ministries such as Safe Path, Toys for Tots, and foster families. Please help your child choose the gift that he/she will bring.

**The teachers of the four and young five-year-old classes would like their children to bring their gift wrapped.** They will unwrap it during their party, get a chance to tell why they chose it, and then put it in a special box.

**Children in the infant through threes classes should bring their gift unwrapped.**

The Christmas parties are a little more elaborate than the fall party, but still not a real big deal. Teachers will contact the room mothers or the parents who signed up to plan the parties to arrange for food, games, activities, etc.

### **PROJECT BACKPACK DONATIONS**

We are going to collect plastic jars of peanut butter 12 - 15 ounces. These jars will be sent home with the children for the Christmas break so they'll be able to make sandwiches. Thanks for helping us help these children and their families.

### **JANUARY TUITION PAYMENTS**

Your January tuition payment will be due the first day that your child comes back to school in January—either the 10<sup>th</sup> or 11<sup>th</sup>. It will be late after the 11<sup>th</sup>. The envelopes will be handed out the week of Dec. 12<sup>th</sup> if you'd like to pay before we go on Christmas break.

### **HOLIDAY MARKET**

A great big THANK YOU to the Holiday Market committee who organized our wonderful event: Melissa Quindslan and Corrie Jones (committee chairs and silent auction) Michelle Belden (merchants), Stephanie Conboy (marketing design), Dana Augur (marketing publications),



Holiday Market, continued

Tracy Weir (decorations), Julie Austin and Natalie Swearingin (bake sale & greeters), Paula Deiters (entertainment), Shannon Dillard (lunch coordinator), and Jeremy Jones (MC for the day). Also our committee members and class auction coordinators: Amy Adcock, Bree Collins, Brooke Melton, Brooke Nelson, Callie Warren, Danielle Dunn, Jacqui Daniels, Jamie Watt, Jen Powell, Jennifer Roberts, Jessica Turner, Candice Murray, Lori Partin, Marci Hoskovec, Monica Sheffield, Nicole Gray, Penny Goffinet, Renee Moore, Sandy Saperstein, Stephanie Bates, Susan Reid, Terri Schrews, and Courtney Kunkel. They spent many hours working on it and produced a very professional event. It was great fun for everyone and a great fundraiser (over \$8000)! A special thank you goes to all of the parents who came to help us set up on Friday night. The room looked wonderful! Thank you also to all of you who baked goodies for the bake sale and volunteered your time on Saturday. We also appreciate all of you who came to shop and bid on the auction items! The proceeds will all go to improve our preschool. We couldn't do it without our volunteers! Thank you!

### **THANKSGIVING FEASTS**

Thank you to everyone who helped to make our Thanksgiving Feasts such a great success. We appreciate all the parents and other family members who took time out of their day to come, watch the program, and eat our feast with us. We hope you enjoyed it!

A great big THANK YOU goes to all the parents who came in at 9:30 to prepare the food. It was delicious and we couldn't do it without your help! Thanks to Kim Tucci who came in extra early to cook all the turkeys and supervise the other cooking both days! Also, thanks to the alumni parents and church members who came in to be sure the food was on the tables and clean up the kitchen. Thanks also to all the families who donated money. It was a great help!



## **REGISTRATION FOR 2012-2013**



We will do our registration for the next school year for current students and their siblings January 10<sup>th</sup>-27<sup>th</sup> through the tote bags. Please follow the instructions with the form that you'll receive. It will include registration and tuition costs for next year. The form and check is due in the preschool office no later than January 27th.

You will be asked to mark a first and second choice on the form. The classes will be filled as we receive the forms and we hope to give everyone their first choice. Anyone who wants to register, but does not turn in a form and registration fee by Jan. 27th will have to come in on Saturday, Feb. 4<sup>th</sup> with the church families, alumni siblings, and community families. The schedule will be: 8:00-8:30 for current students (who didn't register in January), church families, and alumni siblings, and 8:30-9:00 for community families.

If you have questions about next year's curriculum, activities or anything else, please give me a call (770-590-0982), email ([kcoffeen@duewest.org](mailto:kcoffeen@duewest.org)) and/or look in your parent handbook. You can also ask your child's teacher about class placement for next year.

### **Fund Raisers**

Thanks to everyone who participated in our Kidstuff coupon book fund raiser. I hope you enjoy using the coupons! We raised \$850.00! Thanks also to everyone who's placed SCRIP orders. We've raised \$1054 through the November order. We will continue placing orders each month through May.

### **CHILDREN'S CAR & BOOSTER SEATS**

This is a reminder to all parents! Every child who attends this preschool is required by law to be in a car seat or booster seat. The Georgia law says that every child under 8 years old must be in a seat. First of all it is dangerous for these children to be in a regular seat belt and second, if you are stopped and your child is not in a car or booster seat you will get a ticket. Please help protect your children!

## **RECYCLING**

Thank you to Debbie Brown for coordinating our recycling program and to all of you who have sent things in to be recycled. We have received a lot of items and Debbie has sent several boxes to the company. Please continue to send us the following items: **Capri Sun/Honest Kids Juice Pouches, All brands of chip/pretzel bags, M & M Mars Products, Nabisco Products, Elmer's Glue bottles & tubes, and Tyson Frozen Chicken tops/side panels of boxes from products.**



## **REQUESTS AND REMINDERS**

1. If you would like to talk to your child's teacher about your child, please call or email her to schedule a time. The teachers are responsible for the class before school and during car line so they cannot talk to a parent about their child specifically at those times.
2. Please do not send your child to school if he/she is sick. We will call you if your child becomes sick at school, but it would help a lot if you would keep your child home when you know or suspect that he/she is sick. Everyone else in the room is exposed to the germs, when one child comes in sick. Please refer to the parent handbook page B5 to see the guidelines for when to keep your child at home.
3. If you have a cell phone, please be sure that it is turned on when your child is at school. We need to be able to reach you in case your child is sick. Also, if any numbers or emails change, be sure to let us know.
4. Please send a coat with your child every day and be sure that his/her name is in it. The children will go out to play unless the weather is extremely cold or rainy.
5. Please drive **SLOWLY** in the church parking lot. Help keep everyone safe!

## NEWS FROM THE TEACHERS

### Mrs. Harris' Baby Bees (Infants & Y.Ones):

The month of November has been fun but very quick. We have had a great time singing, laughing and playing together. We would like to welcome Carly and Ethan to our infant class. They are a joy and we are very blessed to have them.

Mrs. Price and I hope that you had a Happy Thanksgiving and want you to know we are very thankful for all of you.

### Mrs. Augur's Ladybugs (Ones):

November was a busy month. The children made all sorts of different turkeys. Some from hand prints, others out of coffee filters and paper towel holders. They made corn using cheerios and cotton balls. They learned the sign for thank you and they use it all the time. The children are really starting to master the signs they have learned. They sang and danced during music and they walked on the balance beam and crawled in the tunnel during tumble time. The children are learning to share and play with one another. A big Happy Birthday to Garrett, he turned two on November 18th. Congratulations to the Sevin family. They welcomed Shiloh on November 18th. Daniel will be a wonderful big brother. The children love to read, so we read lots of books. Mrs. Novis and I are thankful for the children in our classes and the wonderful parents and grandparents that bring them. We hope that you had a wonderful Thanksgiving. *Continue steadfastly in prayer, being watchful in it with thanksgiving. - Colossians 4:2*

### Mrs. Schaefer's Bears (Young Twos):

November was another busy month of having fun and learning new things. We have spent time focusing on Thanksgiving and all the wonderful things associated with this special time of the year. Our color was brown which was perfect for our turkeys. We made turkeys with our hands and learned songs about fat turkeys and turkeys sleeping in the trees. Our Bible story was "A Boy Shares his Lunch" and we discussed how we share everything. We are all starting to learn to try to put on our jackets. The kids love doing this. We get a little better at

Mrs. Schaefer, continued

it each time we try. Don't forget to send in a jacket because we try to go outside when the weather is nice. Please remember to put your child's name in it.

I would like to thank all the parents for helping out with the Holiday Market project and shopping. Great Job!

We would like to welcome Finn Nygren to our Monday/Wednesday class. Now we have eight kids in each class.

Happy Thanksgiving and God Bless.

### Mrs. Ashford's T-Th Goldfish (Older Twos):

Thanksgiving and Christmas may seem like interconnected holidays with stores decorated before Halloween. It must be confusing for young children to paint turkeys while seeing Santa and singing Jingle Bells. We try to use November for pondering all that we are grateful for, so that in December we can praise God for his grace. The goldfish have been celebrating harvest with painted pumpkins, leaves and turkeys.

"God, we thank you" is sung several times a day in our room. We give thanks for our friends during circle time, we sing thanks to God for our snack and for our lunch. We are learning to notice when it's appropriate to say "thanks": when someone takes turns, when someone invites us to play, when someone helps out. So many things to be thankful for when you are turning three! We have thanked God for paint, books, dogs and candy. Thank you God, for birthdays to celebrate! Happy Birthday to Peppy, Matthew and Michael!

With grateful hearts, Mrs. Rochler and I count all of you among our blessings and we hope you had a family-filled Thanksgiving surrounded by all that you are thankful for. "We can only be said to be alive in those moments when our hearts are conscious of our treasures." Thornton Wilder (three time Pulitzer Prize winner).



Mrs. Deiter's Sea Turtles (3's T/Th):

November has truly been a month of Thanksgiving! We have been preparing for our Thanksgiving Feast all month long! The children enjoyed learning fall and Thanksgiving songs with Mrs. Partin. We have learned that the pilgrims and the Indians shared the first Thanksgiving feast and what they ate and what they were thankful for. The children were able to express what they were thankful for too. I appreciate that their simple answers made such an impact on their parents. It was a pleasure to share our Thanksgiving Feast with the parents. They are such great little performers and Mrs. Pass and I are so very proud of them! The children are continuing to learn their shapes and numbers. We are starting the concept of opposites. And, they are learning their colors in English and Spanish! We continue to work on our Zoo Phonics and are learning to spell and write our names. This month's Bible story was also about a feast. The children learned about how Jesus used a boy's lunch to feed the crowds that had come to hear him. They made their own fishes and loaves and basket. They also enjoyed their Chapel time with Mrs. Coffeen.

Jamie is 4! We celebrated our first birthday with Jamie and it was very fun...cha!cha!cha! Next is the special month of Christ's birth--Christmas. We look forward to sharing that glorious celebration with the children!

Mrs. Pass and I hope that your family and loved ones had a Happy Thanksgiving!

Mrs. Dreyer's Fish (3's M-W-F):

November has been a busy time getting ready for the Thanksgiving Feast! The children really enjoyed making their placemats, headaddresses, vests and especially their beaded necklaces! I think they were the most adorable Indians ever and great singers too! It was great to see all the parents and grandparents! During the month, we talked about the Bible verse Psalm 136:1, Give Thanks to God. The children came up with so many different things that they were thankful for that our thankful chain went across the entire room! It is a great time of year to realize how blessed we are as a class!

Mrs. Dreyer, continued

Our Bible story was about the boy who shares his lunch, Matthew 14:13-21. The children understood the story as we tried to share one little Cheez-it with the whole class! The children sure enjoyed the fall themes in story time, Spanish, and music this month! Mrs. Pass and I appreciate all the hard work that Mr. and Mrs. Sheffield did for the adorable picnic table and basket for the Holiday Market. It was perfect and represented our class well! Thank you to all the parents who sent in donations! Our alphabet letters in November were E, F, G and H. We also discussed the color brown and decorated Tom the Turkey as we reviewed all of our colors.

Adeline was our only birthday this month, Happy Birthday Adeline! We are looking forward to celebrating the birth of Jesus in the month of December!

Mrs. Moskal's Turtles (3's M-W-F):

November has been a busy month. The children enjoyed our bible story about the little boy who shared his lunch and Jesus' miracle. After cutting out their baskets and filling them with fish and bread, we had fun singing our song "Jesus Can Make Miracles". They enjoyed telling us what they were thankful for as we talked about giving thanks to God for all that we are given. We talked about the Pilgrims and Indians and why we celebrate Thanksgiving. This helped them understand why they were Indians at the feast. We spent a lot of time on the preparations for the Thanksgiving Feast. The children worked hard on their awesome Indian costumes and I think they looked great! Thanks to everyone for supplying their shirts. I hope everyone enjoyed the Thanksgiving Feast. I know your children were very excited about you sharing the day with them. It was wonderful seeing and talking to all of you. Thank you all for coming!

We loved all the wonderful feathers the children decorated at home. We certainly had an amazing turkey. They were so excited when they brought their feathers to class. We immediately placed them on the board for them to enjoy.

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Mrs. Moskal, continued

We worked on our letters E, F, G and H. We continue to enjoy the creative Show & Tell ideas. The children love Show & Tell! We have had fun working on their numbers, shapes and colors through Bingo and fun circle time games.

Thanks to everyone for all the wonderful donations that were sent in for the Holiday Market. The toy chest filled with toys was a success. Thanks to Mrs. Kunkel for all your time and work in organizing the donations for the toy chest.

We enjoyed celebrating Bryce's birthday this month (11/26). Thanks to Mrs. Dunn for making our play dough this month. We hope everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving and enjoyed your time with family!

Mrs. Morrison's Caterpillars (3's M-Th):

We have been very busy this month. We have been busy working on our decorations and songs for our Thanksgiving Feast. We have been talking about being thankful for our families and the colors of fall. We have been working on tracing pictures and writing letters. We continue working on our Zoo-phonics books.

Please remember to send in jackets, hats, and gloves with your child since we have no idea what the weather will be like when we go out to play. I want to thank all the parents who came in to help with the Holiday Market and who helped with our Thanksgiving Feast. I hope you and your families had a safe and wonderful Thanksgiving. Happy 4<sup>th</sup> Birthday to Grayson and Lucy.

Mrs. Davalos' Butterflies (4's M-Th):

We are thankful for your children! Thank you parents for sending them in when they are well and keeping them home when they are sick. Thank you for helping them learn their addresses, phone numbers, and birthdays. Thank you for sending in creative and tasty snacks, surprising them by being a Mystery Reader, and driving on field trips. Thanks also for supporting Mrs. Alfieri and I!

Mrs. Davalos, continued

November has been a month of celebrating Thanksgiving. The children have made crafts and read books about this wonderful time of year. We have been practicing songs all month for our Thanksgiving program which is always so special!

We also learned to recite Humpty Dumpty this month. We are focusing on rhyming words. We state the words that rhyme in the poem and then think of our own. They are getting better each month. We also count and clap the syllables in words. For example, Thanks-giv-ing has 3. These skills are pre-reading skills and help with not only reading, but spelling as well!

The children also learned about the boy who shared his lunch. The Bible tells of a young boy who went to hear Jesus speak. There were thousands listening and many had no food for lunch. The young boy's mother had packed him 5 small loaves of bread and 2 fish. He gave the food to Jesus who multiplied the food to feed all who were hungry. What a great story of selflessness and miracles.

We have been reviewing colors and shapes too. I have asked most of the children about them and most have earned their colors and shapes pieces for their achievement ribbons. If they miss one or two, we will review them daily until they know them all well!

Stevie B's was a hit this month as well. Going behind the scenes and learning how pizza's are made is always a hit. They also made some great looking group pizzas! We thank all of the drivers and parents who attended and supervised the many hand-washings and returns to get pizza and drinks.

Mrs. Alfieri and I hope that everyone had a Thanksgiving full of family, friends, and happy memories!



### Mrs. Kehoe's Busy Bees (4's M-Th):

November has certainly been a very busy and productive time! Our theme this month was Thanksgiving and harvest time. The children have all been working hard on doing a lot of beautiful and creative art projects such as stain glass leaves, brightly colored sunflowers, spattered corn mazes, funny scarecrows, and an Indian boy riding in a canoe, as well as many Thanksgiving theme decorations for our feast. Our "Disguise a Turkeys" were incredible!! I read an assortment of books about the very first Thanksgiving, the Pilgrims journey to America on the Mayflower, and how we as Americans celebrate this time of Thanksgiving today. This month in math, we have continued to practice learning the numbers 0-10; sorted items by size, shape, and color; and practiced buttoning and zipping. If your child feels confident that he/she can button and /or zip his/her own coat, he/she can show me and I will give them another award! Our nursery rhyme in November was "Humpty Dumpty". The children recited the rhyme and completed several art projects using Humpty Dumpty. Our Bible story was "A boy shares his lunch". This story showed the children how God will always provide for all of us when in need and how he wants us to help one another. We talked a lot about giving thanks for all we are given and showing others our gratitude.

In phonics, we reviewed all of the previously learned letters, as well as, learned the letters Ll, Hh, Kk, and Mm. The children made an art project for Honey Horse, Kayo Kangaroo, and Missy Mouse. I know that our parents will love to see all of our Alphabet Art projects at the end of the year in the children's Memory Book! Our children are truly turning into budding artists!

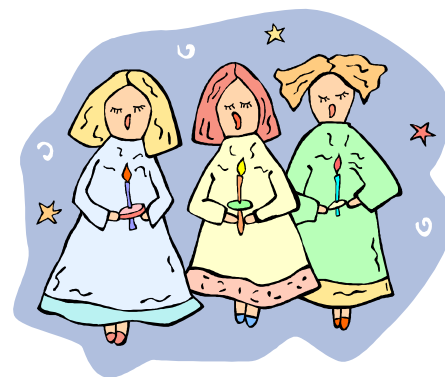
We had a fabulous field trip on November 1st to Stevie B's! The children really enjoyed the tour of the restaurant, especially making and eating a pizza. The manager praised our children for their nice manners and polite behavior. Mrs. Kelley and I were very proud of all of them! Thank you to all of our wonderful parents who volunteered to drive and share this experience with us! A special thank you to Mrs.

Mrs. Kehoe, continued

Mitchell for coordinating all the drivers, again. We all look forward to our next field trip to Bethlehem Walk on December 9th. It will be a memorable day and I hope many of you can join us! I also want to thank Mrs. Reid for coordinating our Holiday Market basket! Our Christmas themed basket was beautiful and I am thankful that so many of you contributed to it. A huge thank you to Mrs. Warren for helping to coordinating this wonderful event for us all!

This month, we also had an amazing Story time with Mrs. Jones. She shared several Harvest and Thanksgiving tales with the children. As always, she was delightful and so entertaining! Mrs. Overton also came to be our Mystery Reader in November and did an amazing job! We want to say a special Happy Birthday to Hope Mitchell who celebrated her 5th birthday on November 8th and Samantha Holloman who celebrated her 5th birthday on November 19th. Our class was so happy that we could be a part of your celebration!

Mrs. Kelley and I would like to take this opportunity to tell each and every one of our parents how thankful we are to be able to teach your loving and amazing children. We are so excited to come to school each day and feel we are so lucky to have the opportunity to be a part of your child's journey. We are truly grateful for all of your kind words and support, as well. Happy Thanksgiving to all of you!!



### Mrs. Micale's Monkeys (4's M-F):

November has been a short but fun month for our class. Our theme for the month was Harvest and Thanksgiving. We spent a lot of our time preparing crafts and learning new songs for the Thanksgiving Feast. The children were very excited to have their families join us at school and asked daily, "Is today the Feast?"

Our nursery rhyme this month was Humpty Dumpty. We had lots of fun pretending to be Humpty and "falling off a wall". The Bible story was A Little Boy Shares His Lunch. We had chapel with Mrs. Coffeen and learned a song about Jesus feeding the crowd with five little loaves and two little fish.

In phonics this month, we worked on the letters Ll, Hh and Kk. Our math lessons this month included sorting by size, color, and shape. We also worked on recognizing and counting the numerals 5 and 6. Special activities this month included a field trip to Stevi B's and Story Time with Mrs. Jones.

Happy Birthday to Aaron on November 16<sup>th</sup>. Mrs. Alfonsin and I hope that everyone had a safe and happy Thanksgiving break. We are truly blessed to have such wonderful children and supportive families in our class.

### Mrs. Armentrout's Frogs (Young Fives):

WOW!! What a busy month!! I guess the old saying of "Time flies when you're having fun" is true. I know that we are having lots of fun with your children.

Our field trip to Stevi B's was a lot of fun. The kids had a great time and still talk about it. Thank you to all that joined us!

We spent the first part of the month learning about the Pilgrims and Indians. We discussed what we would take with us if we were to travel on the Mayflower and could only pack one thing. We have all decided that we are thankful for everything we have in our lives to make living easier! The Pilgrims and their children had a tough life.

### Mrs. Armentrout, continued

The rest of our month was getting all of our artwork and feast projects completed. The feast was a huge success. All of your children's hard work sure paid off. A big "THANKS" to all the moms who helped in the kitchen.

Our Bible story of the Month was "A Boy Shares His Lunch." The kids enjoyed making their baskets with the 2 fish and the 5 loaves of bread.

The letters of the week this month were "Nn" and "Yy".

We celebrated Lily's birthday on the 7<sup>th</sup> and Olivia's birthday (the 22<sup>nd</sup>) a little early because it was during the Thanksgiving break this year.

Our Disguise –A-Turkeys turned out great. We love seeing what the kids come up with every year. The feathers looked great on the turkey also!

I want to send out a great big **THANK YOU** to everyone for sending in donations for our adopted soldier, Morgan. We sent lots of treats to him and we are sure he will love receiving it. We will do another care package and send it out right after Thanksgiving. I would like EVERYTHING that comes in wrapped in Christmas wrap. That way it gives him something to unwrap. Here is a note that he sent to me via *Facebook* last Friday: "If you could, let the kids know that half of the Marines in Afghanistan are wearing the flip-flops they sent and everything we eat has ranch on it now! All of your efforts and the efforts of the children are very appreciated and I can't wait to meet them."

We are already very busy working on our Christmas gifts and artwork already! We hope you all had a wonderful Thanksgiving break.

