

St. Francis second graders have questions for Santa

St. Francis second graders, taught by Ramona Raile and Jennifer Krien had a number of questions for Santa this year. Here's some of the questions. Santa answered the questions in the letter below.

Matthisen Witzel wanted to know how many elves are at the North Pole? She also wanted a new puppy for Christmas, adding "please" at the end.

"If you think I'm good, would you bring an X-box with the video game 'Spiral, the Legend?'" Sayed Fierro asked.

Tasha Ritchey was more interested in asking Santa to bring her a Controller 4-Wheeler.

Luke Lampe wanted an X-Box 360 and a 4-wheeler.

Jacey Jones was wanting to make sure she kept in contact with everyone and asked Santa to bring her a phone.

Jessica Pacheco wanted Santa to bring her a bike, a big-screen TV, a scooter and an iPod.

Kenny Adams wondered just where Santa's toy shop was. "Is it in your house and do you also have reindeer there?"

Mattie Leibbrandt can hardly wait for Christmas and wanted to know just how many presents

Santa had for her.

Dalton Straub wanted to know how many elves Santa had and also how many reindeer he had.

Jake Faulkender had been thinking about his original request to Santa. He said, "I know I asked for an iPod.... But, I'm changing to a Wii with three controllers. Is that ok with you?"

"Santa, how many elves do you have?" asked Madison Tice. She also wanted to know if Santa's elves made the toys."

Zoe Sundstrom also wanted to know how many elves Santa had and if his elves made the toys.

Hanna Bracelin asked, "Do you like Mrs. Claus' cookies? If you do, please write me back."

Mallery Mills asked, "How small are the elves?"

"Do you know where I am going?" asked Erika Ramos.

Martin Beikman didn't know if Santa had his list yet and asked for a "two-cycle" motorcycle and a plasma screen TV, specifying a 32-inch screen.

Emileigh Dinkel asked Santa what the names of the reindeer were. "What do you do?" "Are you being good?" "How many elves do you have and how are they?" she asked.

"Do you have a 'special' gift for me?" Reagan Beims asked.

Trayton Doyle was making sure Santa had his list right and asked if he could have an electric guitar and a Playstation or X-Box 360.

Tate Busse wanted to know if Santa's elves were nice. He also asked how they (the elves)

made toys?

"Do you have a talking reindeer, Santa?" asked Mandi Cooks. "What is his name?"

"Santa, do you have real reindeer?" asked Tia Penn. "Do you have real elves?" "Do you have a real toy shop?" "Do you have Rudolph, the Red Nose Reindeer?"



Santa's letter to the children

Dear second grade students,

This has been a very busy year. Toys have changed so much from the time your parents were children. Today, there are X-boxes, computers and PlayStations, just to name a few. I have to study the toy catalogs and go onto the computer for information.

I have a very up-to-date list of the things children want. I have some special surprises and I am trying to bring everything children want but, sometimes, there are some difficulties. For instance, Martin, a 32-inch plasma screen television is kind of big for me to get on the sleigh and, then the reindeer get very tired if the sleigh is too full. But, the elves and I will try to get the televisions, games, computers and even phones on the sleigh

I also have some good maps with directions and house numbers of all children. I generally know where everyone lives. If they are going to be somewhere else, Mrs. Claus tells me. You know, she loves children as much as I do.

The elves are so good. They make everything but, sometimes those video games are a little difficult and the elves need to know how to read and do math so they get everything together just right. I hope all of you boys and girls are studying your reading and math because it is so important.

My elves are the best!! They are so nice and, Tate and Emileigh, I will tell them you asked about them. The elves come in every size... just like boys and girls. The bigger elves help the smaller elves and each one has special jobs.

At the present time, I have 120 elves at the North Pole. They have their own dormitories. Mrs. Claus fixes us delicious meals with the help of some of the elves.

After a hardy breakfast of oatmeal with brown sugar and milk and stacks of pancakes, we go down to the toy shop. The shop is a very large building with all of the supplies and it is right next to the barn where the reindeer are kept. Our house just isn't large enough to have the toy shop

in it. In Santa Land, North Pole, everything is real and, the reindeer and I have worked out a special language, I call it Santadeer language. I couldn't deliver gifts if it were not for them, especially Rudolph with his red nose.

Last winter, Rudolph's nose started turning blue. The veterinarian was called immediately because he knew how important it was to have a red nose to guide the sleigh. His buddies, Dasher and Dancer, Prancer and Vixen, Comet and Cupid, Donner and Blitzen, gathered around his stall which was piled with warm hay. He hadn't eaten his grain and just laid there, with his blue nose blinking part of the time. The doctor checked him once, then checked him twice, he asked if he had been naughty. The doctor thought a long time, then he wrote out a prescription for cherries and berries mixed in a strawberry milkshake (all of these foods are red) and told him not to eat any more blue M&Ms! In a week, Rudolph was up playing around with his buddies and his nose was back to being bright red!

Mrs. Claus and I have been married for a long time. When we first got married, she wasn't a very good cook (but I didn't tell her — I would never hurt anyone's feelings). She even burned the cookies and that was why I enjoyed all the cookies and milk you kids left me.

However, she has found there are cookies in the cold section of the grocery store. She just unwraps them, cuts them up and bakes them. She puts red and green sugar on the sugar cookies. And, you know, today, there are cookies which have green Christmas trees in the middle. In fact, now her cookies are so good that I have to watch my weight. She has had me on a diet so I will be able to slip down the smallest chimney to deliver toys and other presents.

Well, I must start packing or I won't be ready for the big day. To everyone — have a very merry Christmas!!

Love,
Santa
North Pole

Happy Holiday

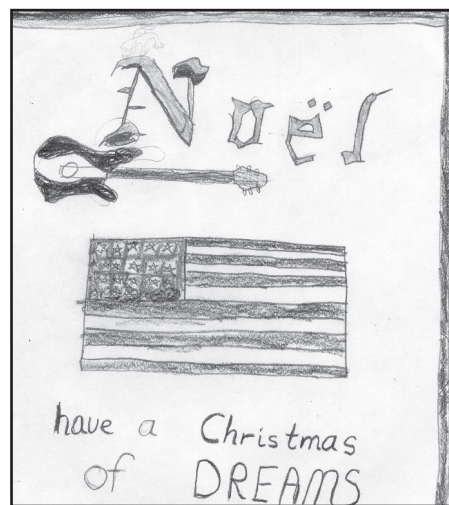
The Christmas season fills each heart with thoughts of love and well being.

LA



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have a Christmas of DREAMS

Jude Faulkender ~ 4th Grade

May the old-fashioned delights of Christmas, make yours a wonderful holiday. Our sincere thanks for your kind patronage.

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