

January 6, 2012

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Parent Association Meeting Monday
8:30 AM Mass Tuesday
2nd Grade Reconciliation Parent Meeting Tuesday or Thursday
Progress Reports go home next Friday
Father/Daughter Dance Sat., 1/14
No School Monday, Martin Luther King holiday 1/16

WEATHER WATCH

We seem to be experiencing a most unusual "winter" - and most of us hope it continues into the spring! However, we do ask that students are dressed for the weather. **Many** students arrive at school without legs covered, no gloves or mittens, and light coats or jackets. The children are outside in the morning until 7:50 and go out periodically throughout the day. We want them to remain healthy through this "warm" spell. It is good stewardship to take care of self, others and our things. We need to help our children take good care of themselves.

CLASS COMPOSITES

The class composites were sent home today with each student. Please check their bookbags!

AFTER SCHOOL SPANISH CLASS

For those students in K-3 grades who were signed up for After School Spanish, the last Spanish class is Thursday, January 26.

FATHER/DAUGHTER DANCE

The "Night with your Star" Father-Daughter Dance is on January 14th. If you are planning on attending and have not sent in your form, it is attached at the bottom of the bulletin. For those who are registered, you will be receiving a ticket via backpack mail on Monday. We have enough volunteers, thank you so much! If you have any questions, please contact Laura Coe at clcoe@comcast.net.

ST. PAT'S PANCAKE BREAKFAST

January 29 is our second bi-annual Pancake Breakfast to kick off Catholic School's Week. Breakfast will be served after each mass (7:30-12:00). This is a great time for school and parish families to share in St. Patrick's fellowship and raise money for the school.

BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION

Our last supply of box tops was sent in and we just received a check for \$723.90. Great work everyone. Keep sending in those boxtops; we collect all year. Thank you.

PARENT'S ASSOCIATION

The next Parent Association Meeting is Monday, January 9th. The meeting will be from 1:30 - 2:15 in the Old Church Hall. Come see what we've been up to this year and what we're planning for the rest of the year! We will also be discussing open chair positions for next year. We look forward to seeing you there.

MRS. B'S BLACKBOARD

January has brought all of us back to school well rested and with a renewed sense of purpose as we begin the second half of the school year. Coming back to school after two weeks off is always bittersweet: it is good to get back to a normal routine, but it is difficult to give up those relaxed days of vacation. The nicest thing about this time of year is that all of us here at St. Patrick's feel a sense of gratitude for all the good wishes, poems, home made cards, notes, treats, and gifts you share with us during the Christmas season. We are so grateful for all the nice things you do for us. Thank you so much for being so kind.

Catholic Schools' Week is coming up at the end of the month. It begins on Sunday, January 29 and ends on Friday, February 3. Several groups are working together on this important celebration, including our student council, parent group, school board and faculty. We will be celebrating our distinguished graduate at our all school Mass on Tuesday, January 31. This year we honor Mr. James Hayner. For the past 30 some years he has served as the city administrator for the Village of Gurnee. We look forward to celebrating his service to the community. Please watch the bulletin for more.

During the month of January, the School Board works diligently on the new budget. They do a juggling act: attempting to keep tuition affordable, accommodate increases in salaries and related costs, books and supplies, utilities and maintenance, maintain a reasonable fundraising effort, and provide for future growth and success. A fact sheet outlining changes and increases will be provided prior to pre-registration in early February. Please remember that pre-registration packets will be sent out the first week of February. Tuition accounts must be current and families paying the parishioner rate should be actively participating in Sunday liturgy. The school board has much to do prior to the budget deadline mid February. Pray for us.

--- Mrs. B.

P.S. Your generous support of our pizza days and our aluminum can drive provided a wonderful bonus for our entire staff. They all received a little something extra from all of you. Your concern for all of us is much appreciated. We thank you so much for making St. Pat's a great place to work!

Your children bring my greatest joy at St. Pat's, but you are close behind them. I know well the sacrifices you make to enroll your children here. That you would also remember me at Christmas time is truly touching. Thank you. God bless you in 2012!