

December 19, 2011

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**UPCOMING EVENTS**

Gurnee AM/PM Special bus Mon., Tues.; & Wed.  
Last Day for AfterSchool Club Tuesday  
8:30 AM Mass Wednesday  
10:00-11:00 AM Christmas parties Wednesday, K-5  
11:30 Dismissal Wednesday  
No Woodland Bus Wednesday PM  
No AfterSchool Club Program Wednesday  
Christmas Break  
School resumes Thursday, January 5

**DISMISSAL PROCEDURE FOR DECEMBER 21<sup>st</sup>**

In our efforts to make our last day of school (Wednesday, December 21st) happy and stress free, we have formulated a plan for dismissal. Please read on...carefully:

**For those volunteers who will be leaving the premises with just one child**, please park in the parking lot to the west of the Old Church.

**For those volunteers who will be taking more than one child home**: please park in the middle parking lot behind the rectory. We would like you to begin lining up right away for dismissal. There will be staff members outside to direct you. When you leave the party, take your child that is in the classroom with you and go to your car. Please do not stop at other classrooms to pick up the other children in your carpool. They will be called out at the beginning of dismissal. If you are parked in the middle lot, it is important that you leave the building as soon as possible and get into your car so that you do not hold up the line when dismissal time comes. When you come into the building for the party, please be sure to leave the last names of the children in your carpool with the front office.

If you are dropping off your children at arrival time and attending mass, we ask that you drop off the children and leave the premises until 8:05 AM, at which time you will be directed where to park.

Again, it is our intention to make things run as smoothly as possible on Wednesday. Christmas break will begin with smiles and joyful hearts. Merry Christmas to you, each one.

**APPROPRIATE DRESS FOR WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 21<sup>st</sup>**

We have decided on the clothing of the day for this Wednesday, our last day of school before Christmas break. The students may wear a holiday shirt with their uniform bottoms and shoes. Please be sure the shirt is festive, but appropriate for school wear. We do gather for Mass in the church at 8:30 AM followed by classroom parties. Your cooperation with the policy will make Wednesday a happy day for all.

**PARENT ALERT SYSTEM**

In the event we need to close the school because of weather, we will notify you through RenWeb and the Parent Alert System. Mrs. Bosnak will record a message in this program and will send it out to all school families. This call will go out to all our parents' home phones and cell phones. If anyone other than parents receives this call, please email Diane Kotlar at [sps@stpatrikwadsworth.org](mailto:sps@stpatrikwadsworth.org) and give her the name and phone number of the person it went out to. It is very important that all your information in the RenWeb system is accurate. Remember: should we have to close school, this alert will go out early in the morning. Also, if you see that you missed a call from the school, please give it a minute and listen to the message, do not call the school as the phone lines will be busy. If you do answer the

call when it is sent out, there will be a slight delay before the recording begins, so say "Hello" and then wait a few seconds. The message will always begin with "This is Mrs. Bosnak".

### **FSP - FOOD SERVICE PROVIDERS**

We have an email address for FSP now. Should you have any questions about the hot lunch program please contact them through email or telephone. [fspstpats@gmail.com](mailto:fspstpats@gmail.com) or 773-447-0907. Thank you.

### **SCRIP REBATES**

The quarterly rebates have been applied to your tuition accounts for the January payment. If your tuition account is paid in full, you will be receiving a rebate check. We will send it home with your youngest or only student this week. Thank you for your continued support of this program.

### **WARREN TOWNSHIP GIRL'S SOFTBALL REGISTRATION**

On line registration is taking place right now! See the attached flyer for more details if you are interested.

### **MRS. B'S BLACKBOARD**

The Friday after Thanksgiving is one of my favorite days. It is a "quiet" day to come to school and catch up on things that have been overlooked due to the short week. Some years ago I experienced a beautiful interruption to the day. I share this little story with you again as we celebrate Christmas.

It was the Friday after Thanksgiving and I was catching up on some work in my office. The school was deserted and the rest of the campus as quiet as a church when an insistent knock on the front door startled me. A young man stood there. He asked if I would open the new church for him. He explained that he and his wife had a baby on the day before Thanksgiving. They had just left the hospital, but before going home they wanted to bring the baby to God. I explained that I did not have the key with me, but I did have the key to the old church. His dark eyes smiled!

I opened the side door to the church, then watched the young man as he carefully helped his wife out of the car, then retrieved a small cradle with a tiny baby. Carrying the baby in one hand, he helped his wife up the stairs with the other. I held the door for them, then watched the young couple enter the quiet old church to present their baby to God and give thanks.

I felt deeply privileged to be part of that beautiful moment the Friday after Thanksgiving -- "Black Friday" one newscaster called it, because of the dense throngs jamming the stores in the pre-dawn hours in search of Christmas bargains. Far from the frenzy, in the quiet shadows of a small church, a young couple knelt to give thanks and ask God's blessings on the baby he had given them.

The experience gave me a new way of looking at Advent and Christmas -- those four weeks we will spend waiting for another baby and the day we celebrate His birth. He is the one called Emmanuel, God with us. Christmas blessings!

- - - Mrs. B.

P.S. The Christmas story speaks to us each year -- drawing us into the mystery of the Incarnation. The waiting comes to an end and the joy of the season floods our world. I hope this Christmas season brings you peace, joy, and a renewal of faith in the realization that God is with us. Merry Christmas to all of you and blessings in the new year.

**Attachments**

[WTGS 2012 Flyer for December.pdf](#)