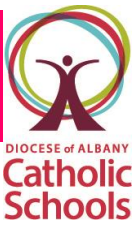


Sacred Heart School Newsletter



December 2016



Principal's Corner By Mrs. Merrill

First quarter is already behind us, and now it is time to look ahead to Advent and Christmas! Our children will be attending daily mass on given days during the season of Advent. When thinking of Christmas and all the gifts they will receive, children will often miss the true meaning of Christmas. Why not plan some family activities through Advent, like designing an Advent Wreath or talking about the symbols of the Jesse tree? I am including some websites that have activities and crafts for all- aged children in this newsletter:

Prayers that can be used with the Advent Wreath:

www.catholicdoors.com/misc/advent.htm

www.catholic.org/clife/advent/index.php?id=21

Advent activities and crafts for preschool and primary children:

<http://www.first-school.ws/activities/bible/advent1.htm>

Explanations of the symbols for the Jesse Tree and the related scripture readings:

<http://www.catholiccultureorg/lit/activites/view.cfm?id=542>

<http://www.geocities.com/Heartland/7202/advent.html>

During December, we also ask families to donate a new, unwrapped gift for our Giving Tree. The items donated will be given to families in need within our school community. Classes will be assigned for each assembly. The schedule will be sent via School Messenger. Thank you , in advance, for your generosity!

On behalf of the entire staff, I wish you a blessed, joyous Christmas and Happy New Year!

Assistant Principal's Corner By Mr. Camenga

What is Common Core?

"Today's students are preparing to enter a world in which colleges and businesses are demanding more than ever before. To ensure all students are ready for success after high school, the Common Core State Standards establish clear, consistent guidelines for what every student should know and be able to do in math and English language arts from kindergarten through 12th grade."

(Commoncorestandards.org)

Today's Common Core Standards are nothing more than updated New York State Standards. The standards focus on developing problem solving strategies, critical thinking, and analytical skills. Here is an example of what students are expected to do today, compared to pre-common core.

Grade 2-3 Student

Task Before

Common Core:

Common Core Task

Per Student:

What was the spacecraft Called?

Why were people across the planet watching their television screens?

What is the author trying to convey when he says, "these men are dressed for colder, stranger places. They walk stiff and awkward steps..."? Use information from the text to explain your answer

What makes this voyage an important event in history? Use information from the text to explain your answer.

As our ever changing world continues to grow, so too should our children. Yes, these standards increase expectations of today's students, but many would agree that we push our children to be academically stronger than the last generation to ensure success in their futures.

Mr. G's Winter Camp

Mr. Giuliano will be holding his Winter Camp again this year over the holiday break. Mr. G's camp will run from (8:30 am to 3:00 pm) on December 26th—30th. The fee will be \$125 per child/ \$200 for 2 children. A registration form will be sent home soon. If you have any questions please call the school office.

PSA Happenings



Thank you to all who helped out at the **Sock Hop**, especially Cheryl McGlothlin and Tiffany Lashway for chairing the event. Thank you also to **John Donohue from Sound Spectrum** for providing the great music.

We appreciate your continued support and participation in our school and the PSA. **We couldn't do it without YOU!!**

Our next PSA meeting for January, 2017 is to be determined.

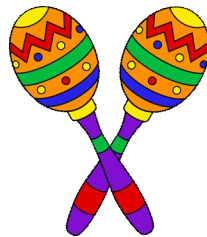
Raffle Update



Thanks to all families who participated in our Annual Raffle.

The winners of our raffle were pulled at our November 4th Sock Hop and congratulations go to:

Grand Prize \$1000.00-Rosanne Jablonski
\$250.00 Shufon
\$100.00 Frank Brush
\$100.00 Christopher Hoyt
\$50.00 Tyler Hurst



The Pulsera Project: "Color the World"

What is a **pulsera** you may askó well it means bracelet in Spanish!

This **global service project** raises funds which benefit countless **Central Americans**, raising money for scholarships, secondary education programs, human rights issues, environmental projects, youth shelters and social enterprises. In addition to all this, it sustains employment of nearly 200 artisans in **Nicaragua and Guatemala**.

"On top of the impact abroad, pulsera sales change the lives of the U.S. by educating them about life in Central America while cultivating student leadership and awareness of global social issues."

Each handmade pulsera is a **one-of-a-kind work of art** that comes tagged with the photo and signature of the artist who made it. **Our sale will run Monday, December 5th until Monday, December 19th. Each pulsera costs \$5.00 and we will even have them on sale in the school office and after the 11:15 SHS Family Mass on Sunday, December 11th.**

The **entire cost (\$5)** of each bracelet will be sent directly to pulseraproject.org. This a global service project and not a school fundraiser.

TSL Adventures Update:

It is said that December is the month where we finish what we started. Alas, TSL isn't finishing anything. We will only continue what we started. We'll be holding programs at Sacred Heart School through December 23. We will move our full day programs to Our Lady of Victory for the week of December 26th. Families can register for that vacation camp on our website at www.tsladventures.net. We will be closed on January 2 and back to Sacred Heart on January 3.

If you are a stranger to TSL, don't be! Stop down and visit us any time and find out more about our great programs serving Sacred Heart and the Troy community, in general. On behalf of TSL, we wish you a warm and happy holiday!



SINGERS WANTED!

Mark your calendars

We will be singing at Colonie Center on **Monday, December 12th** at 6:30 pm in **Center Court** outside **Boscov's 1st Floor**. The parish and school community is invited to participate. School children are to wear their school uniforms and will get to dress down the next day. We receive 10,000 \$School Buck\$ points for our participation.

On that same night,

The **5 Guys Burger and Fries** in Colonie Center will also be hosting a fundraiser for us with 20% of their sales going to our school (during the hours of 4:00 and 9:00 pm - **BRING YOUR FLYER**). **THEN** take your receipt to the **Customer Service Desk** to get \$SchoolBuck\$ credit for our school.

SANTA'S SECRET SHOP



Every year, the PSA sponsors two shopping days for our students. Volunteers set up a "Store" filled with Christmas items and gifts. A flier and shopping list is sent home and parents help their children make out their list of gifts to buy for relatives. We are asking that the shopping list be limited to immediate family members due to time restraints. You can then take them shopping for other family members at another location and time. Most items are between \$.25 and \$5.00.

The students go shopping on their assigned day and our elves help them choose gifts, wrap the one for mom or dad and bag them. Many elves are needed to help with this task so everyone is welcome!

Tuesday, December 13th shoppers: grades PK Yellow, K, 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5
Wednesday, December 14th shoppers: grades PK Yellow, PK Orange, PK Red, PK Blue and 6

The flier and shopping list will be sent home shortly. If you do not receive these forms, please contact the school office and we will send a copy home to you

***Thank you to chair Tanya Testo!**

***CALLING ALL ELVES! We are still in need of volunteers to help out with the Tuesday shopping and wrapping. Would you happen to have one or more hours to spare?**



Sacred Heart's 20th Annual Auction Update

Preparations for Sacred Heart School's biggest fundraiser "The Auction" continues to take shape.

This year's auction, "*The Wizarding World of Sacred Heart School*", will be on **Saturday, April 29, 2017** at the **Franklin Terrace in Troy** so mark your calendars now!

The auction is a fun filled evening of excitement with lots of activity. The silent auction allows people to bid privately on items, the ticket raffle by depositing purchased tickets/chances into a decorated receptacle and the live auction is where people bid publicly on items. There is something for everyone!

Thanks to co-chairs Nicole Johnson and Mark Bagnoli and their numerous volunteers for all of their work at bringing this all together.



* Put your child's/children's name in an envelope and send it to Mrs. Snyder for a special holiday treat!

March Madness Tickets Home for the Holidays!

As we have done over the last several years, your family packet of March Madness tickets (10 tickets per family) **will be available in the office after November 21st.**

This will provide you with the opportunity of selling them over the holidays.

All other packets will be sent home in early February.



Congratulations to Sixth Grade Student Council Members!

Rosanna Alfano, Riley Archambault, Samantha Brady, Seamus Camenga and Nicholas Schrom



Just a Reminder...

- * **Nov. 20th:** SHS Mass 8:45, Barnes and Noble Book Fair
- * **Nov. 21:** PSA Mtg. 6:30 in the cafeteria
- * **Nov. 23-25:** **NO SCHOOL** Thanksgiving
- * **Dec. 1:** Gr. 2 Sacrament of Reconciliation
- * **Dec. 8th:** Feast of the Immaculate Conception 9:00 am Mass
- * **Dec. 9th:** Sacred Heart Children's Choir Outreach, PSA Movie Night
- * **Dec. 12th:** Singing at Colonie Center at 6:30 pm and Fundraiser at The 5 Guys Burger and Fries (BRING FLYER)
- * **Dec. 13 & 14:** Santa Shop by grades
- * **Dec. 14th:** Christmas Concert Grades 1-6 at 7:00 pm
- * **Dec. 16:** Progress Reports (use of Parent Portal)
- * **Dec. 18th:** School Family Mass at 11:15 then Christmas Concert for PreK, Kdg. & 6th Grade at 2:00 pm
- * **Dec. 22nd:** **11:30 Dismissal**, aftercare is available by TSL Adventures
- * **Dec. 23rd to Jan. 2nd:** **NO SCHOOL** for Christmas Vacation -Full daycare is available from TSL Adventures during break at OLV
- * **Dec. 26th-30th:** Mr. G's Winter Camp 8:30-3:00
- * **Jan. 3rd** School Resumes

