

Hello and Happy New Year!

January 7, 2010

I am having a difficult time getting back into the swing of things this week. I am SO TIRED!!! I totally can relate to the children. I had meant to send this email to you earlier this week, but I just haven't gotten it together!

So, anyway, here I am on Thursday with weekly reminders and news.

UNIFORM REMINDER

First of all, I hope that everyone had a wonderful Christmas break! I see that a lot of the children got new jackets and sweatshirts. That is great! I shouldn't see non-uniform jackets and sweatshirts in the classrooms however! PLEASE remind your child that we have a school uniform, and that when they are in the heated classrooms during the day, they need to wear only uniform outerwear--Saint Joseph sweatshirts or fleece jackets. The other sweatshirts and jackets can and should be worn outside during recess and coming to and from school.

Also, mock and regular turtlenecks in red and white may be worn under the uniform shirts or alone with the regular uniform. On Mass days, they may not be worn, but the children can wear the uniform outerwear with their dress uniforms.

I realize it is cold, and I realize that layering is the way to go. But, you must encourage layering of uniform apparel. I've seen a lot of girls wearing leggings and sweatpants under skirts. They can be worn to school, but truly they are not considered uniform, so the girls are to remove them when they get to school. They can wear tights though. That is fine.

I realize that the cold weather is unusual, but we need to be cognizant of the uniform rules.

VOICEMAIL DOWN

Our voicemail system's motherboard has gone down and we have a temporary replacement until Monday (we hope). Teacher voicemail does not work at this time, so email is the best bet, or you may call the front office and we will get a message to your child's teacher.

SEVERE WEATHER

I know we are all praying for snow, but it looks like we are just going to be getting a dusting tonight. At the worst, we may have some slick road conditions in the morning. I will be keeping an eye out and watching the weather news vigilantly. Saint Joseph School will announce its own delays and cancellations under the our own school name. We DO NOT follow Richland 1. So, please look for the school's name on WIS, WLTX or WOLO TV or listen for it on B-106 or WMHK (or other radio stations as I can get to them). I will also use the ALERTIFY email and phone system if I need to make an adjustment in the schedule.

JIMMY JOHNS NIGHT TONIGHT!

I'm sorry I didn't send this out to you sooner. We do indeed have Jimmy Johns Night tonight, as it is the first Thursday of the month! The school received 10% of all sales made between 4 and 9 p.m. this evening. So, you don't have to make supper tonight--it is sandwiches all around! This is for the Jimmy Johns in Woodhill Mall only!

GEOGRAPHY BEE ON MONDAY, JANUARY 11, 2010

On Monday morning, we will be holding our annual Geography Bee. Children in 4th 5th and 6th grades may participate. Information went home before Christmas. Those that wish to participate have told their teachers today, and we will pull the children out of classes on Monday morning to participate. It is not a public kind of thing, but we conduct the bee in the science lab. The winner of this school bee will go on to take a written test to determine placement in the State Bee.

EARLY DISMISSAL on MONDAY 1/11/10

We do dismiss at 2:00 p.m. on Monday, January 11, 2010.

This is so we have a faculty meeting and some teacher in-service. Extended Care is open, starting at 2:00 on Monday, but if you wish to pick your child up after school, you must be here at 2:00 p.m.

SECOND QUARTER ENDS JANUARY 14

Please be sure that your children have completed their Accelerated Reader requirements for their grade of study, and that they have completed all make-up work. Report cards will go home on Monday, January 25. There will be no formal conferences this time, but you can always schedule a conference with your child's teacher by emailing them.

SCHOOL CLOSED JANUARY 15 AND JANUARY 18

The school will be closed on January 15, 2010, for a full day of in-service for our faculty.

EXTENDED CARE WILL BE OPEN on January 15, 2010. The school will be closed on January 18, 2010 for Martin Luther King, Jr. Day--EXTENDED CARE WILL BE CLOSED on January 18, 2010.

VIRTUS

Each year, the children in the school participate in an age-appropriate safety lesson created by VIRTUS. The program is called "Teaching Touching Safety" and it is basically about being safe around strangers. There is a lot of information available at www.virtus.org. It is a Diocesan requirement that we conduct these lessons. They are very well-done, and our teachers handle the material in a very professional and non-threatening way. However, you may elect for your child not to attend the Virtus Lesson. We will be doing the Virtus lessons on January 19. OPT-OUT forms will go home on Monday, January 11, and if you wish to have your child sit out of the lesson, then please complete that form and return it to the school. We will make sure the children sit out of the lesson.

H1N1 Booster Shots

The Health Department will be back here on Thursday, January 21, 2010 to do the Booster shots for those children who received the first vaccine on December 14. Forms for this booster shot will go home on Monday, January 11.

ECUMENICAL PRAYER SERVICE

Mark your calendars for our Ecumenical Prayer Service at 9:00 a.m. on Friday, January 22, 2010. We have invited many of the local area ministers to attend this celebration of Christian diversity and unity. The service will be held in the church in lieu of our regular Friday Mass. Children will wear dress uniforms as usual.

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK BEGINS JANUARY 31, 2010

More information will follow in the next week or so regarding Catholic Schools Week. This national week of celebrating Catholic Schools is also the week in which we try to get all of the re-registration paperwork out! So, you will be getting information on registration and tuition for the next school year soon. Time is flying! **Volunteers Needed:** Parents who wish to volunteer from 9 a.m. -2 p.m. any day during the week of February 1 (Feb 1-Feb 5, 2010), should contact Lisa Dayhuff at lisadayhuff@bellsouth.net or (803) 787-2564.

I hope that you all have a wonderful start to the New Year!
May God Bless You,
Rose Tindall