



St. Rose School

CHELSEA, MA

December 9, 2010

Dear Families,

During this second week of Advent, we are focusing here at school on preparing the way for the Lord- the way of **peace**. One of the words we use for Jesus is “Prince of Peace.” This week we ask ourselves how we can make peace in our lives. Do the choices we make bring about peace? Are we building peace in our relationships with one another? Advent is a time to put aside pride, anger, selfishness, insensitivity, envy, and apathy. It is a time to cultivate generosity, humility, care, and concern. In doing so, we can do our small part to bring peace to our world. None of us are perfect; we can all work to do better in these areas, both at home and at school. As we do this work, we prepare the way for Jesus to come into our hearts again this Christmas.

Please read on about all that is happening this week:

Lunches: Please see attached letter to order the school lunch for your child for the week of December 13-17. Thank you.



Thank you!: Thank you to everyone who helped to make our Christmas Festival a success. It was wonderful to see so many parents, alumni, and friends of the school involved in this great tradition. A special thank you to the people who met weekly over the past few months to plan for the event, everyone who stayed late to help set up Thursday night, and everyone who stayed late to help clean up on Saturday. We couldn't have done it without your help, as well as all of the generous donations made to the class baskets, the raffles, the punch board, Attic Treasures...the list goes on forever! We are still bringing in some money as we sell leftover goodies at lunch (\$0.50) and raffle off a set of drums that was donated. Once all is said and done, we will post the final total in next week's newsletter.

NO SCHOOL: There will be no school tomorrow; teachers have a professional day.

Drum raffle: A beautiful set of drums was donated for the Christmas festival and so many students saw it and wanted it, that we decided we would raffle it off. Next week, students will have an opportunity at lunch time to buy tickets, which will be 2 for \$1.00.



Anti-Bullying Program: Please plan to come to school next Tuesday, December 14, at 7pm for a talk by Dr. William Sharp. He will be speaking about bullying and how you as parents can help your children to recognize bullying and what to do about it. We are really hoping to have a great parent turnout for this event.



Advent Missions: Just a reminder that during Advent, all of our mission money will go to Sister Ursula's school in Pakistan. We have been hearing from her occasionally and the need is very great. They don't even have basic things like crayons! A little bit of money goes a long way there; for only \$12, one child can attend school for a whole year! Please be generous. Thank you!

Cookie Dough Delivery: Cookie dough orders will be delivered on Thursday, December 16 in the late morning. Please stop by anytime after 12:30pm to pick up your order! The cookie dough is frozen, so you absolutely must come that afternoon to pick it up; we do not have space to store it! Thank you.

Student Council: Applications have been submitted. Next week candidates have the opportunity to post campaign posters. They will give their campaign speeches next Friday, and then students will vote to elect their new officers and representatives. We are very excited for this to begin!



Sisters of Providence: I received a letter from the Sisters of Providence recently that I would like to share with you, thanking us for our contribution to their capital campaign. I am enclosing a copy of it in this packet. As you know, we have been blessed by the Sisters of Providence for many years; you may have seen our two current Sisters in recent issues of the Pilot (the newspaper for the Archdiocese of Boston). They were interviewed about their service to St. Rose School. Thank you, Sister Andre and Sister Brigid Mary!

Uniforms: Just so you know, Collegiate House, our uniform company, will be moving effective January 1. Their new location will be down by the intersection of 16 and 28. They will have more space for parking, and will now have Saturday hours.

Save the Date: Next Friday, please plan to send your child (grades K1-5) to school for a night of Christmas magic as we watch the Polar Express! More information will be sent home on Monday.



New Cell Phone Policy: Effective immediately, students will no longer have access to their cell phones during the school day. We are following the lead of many other schools. Teachers will collect all cell phones at the beginning of the day and we will hold them in the office until the end of the day. If you need to get a message to your child during the school day, please call the office. Thank you for your support and understanding as we try to minimize distractions to learning.

Quick Survey: Please take a moment to fill out the attached survey. We would like to know from you when is the best time to schedule things like meetings and other events for parents.

Mark your calendar:

Friday, December 10 - No School - Professional Day for teachers
Sunday, December 12 - Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe
Monday, December 13 - School Mass hosted by Grade 5
Tuesday, December 14 - Dr. Sharp speaks about bullying
Thursday, December 16 - Cookie dough delivery!
Friday, December 17 - Student Council elections; Polar Express Night!
Wednesday, December 22 - 11:30 dismissal for Christmas holidays

Blessings,

Caitlin Keeton, Principal