



St. Rose School

CHELSEA, MA

December 16, 2010

*"All that I am sings of **the God who brings new life to birth in me.**
My spirit soars on the wings of my Lord."
-Magnificat*

Dear Families,

Can you believe it? This will be my last newsletter before Christmas. I hope you have been able to find some quiet time this Advent season to reflect on the true meaning of this holiday. I know it is hard to hear sometimes, but amidst the hustle and bustle of shopping and parties, in the silence, that is where we find baby Jesus, our Savior. Enjoy the holiness of your family during the upcoming school vacation as you ponder the example we have in the Holy Family. And remember, we are, each of us, called to "give birth" to Christ, each and every day through our words, actions, and relationships with our brothers and sisters. Thank you for the example you set each day for your children. Thank you for the sacrifices you make to send them to St. Rose School. Thank you for choosing us as partners in their education and faith formation. May God bless you abundantly at Christmas and always!

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 20-22. We only have school for three days next week, so you will notice that the amount is less than usual. Also attached is the order form for the week we get back from Christmas vacation. Thank you.

Tragic News: I am very sorry to share with you that one of our families has experienced a great loss. The Vaquerano children (Grades 1 and 4) lost their father in an accident earlier this week. As you can imagine, this is an especially hard loss as we approach the holidays. We are doing a collection to help the family with funeral expenses; please see the office if you would like to contribute. Every little bit helps and is greatly appreciated. Additionally, I ask that you keep this family close in prayer during this most difficult time. We know that prayer is a powerful force and God can offer this family comfort in ways that we cannot as they grieve for their loved one.



Christmas Festival: We are still selling leftover goodies at lunch and raffle tickets for the drum set, but I know you are all anxious to hear, so before those little additions are made, I am thrilled to share that the 2010 Christmas Festival made a profit of \$5,907.15!!!! This is fantastic, and I am confident that when the last little bit comes in, it will be well over \$6,000.00. Truly, this could not have happened without your help and support.

Christmas Vacation: There will be no school from December 23-January 2. School will resume on Monday, January 3.

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 do 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!



Student Council: Applications have been submitted. Candidates have been campaigning. Elections will be held tomorrow and our new Student Council officers and class representatives will be announced in the first newsletter when we come back in January.



Uniforms: I would like to remind everyone that it is important to stick to the uniform guidelines. I understand that during the winter months, students who do not have long-sleeved polo shirts would like to wear a long-sleeved t-shirt under their uniform shirt; however, if you do so, please make sure it is white so that it still fits in with the uniform. Also, boots are not to be worn at school. Students may wear boots TO school, but need to bring shoes to change into once they get here. Hoodies should never be worn. Navy cardigans or fleeces are acceptable additions to the uniform when students are chilly in school. Please do not hesitate to ask me if you have any questions.

January Calendar: Enclosed you will find January's calendar. Please put it on your refrigerator so that you are aware of all that is happening here at St. Rose!



Polar Express Movie Night: Hopefully you all (K1-Grade 5) received a flyer on Monday about this fun activity. We hope to see you tomorrow night for an evening of magic as we get cozy in the hall and watch the movie version of this classic Christmas book. Students may wear their pajamas to this event! \$5.00 will cover hot cocoa, popcorn, and a special surprise. All aboard!



New Cell Phone Policy: So far, our new cell phone policy is working out well. Thank you for your understanding and support as we attempt to keep student safety and learning as our top priorities!

Mark your calendar:

Friday, December 17 - Student Council elections; Polar Express Night!

Wednesday, December 22 - 11:30 dismissal for Christmas holidays

Monday, January 3 - School resumes

Blessings,

Caitlin Keeton, Principal