

December 8, 2005

Report Cards for the first trimester go home today. Even though our formal conferences were held in November, teachers are available for conferences at your request if you have any questions, concerns, or helpful information to share about your child's progress. Customarily, students who receive Intermediate Unit Reading, Math, or Speech services receive a progress report. The IU progress reports will be issued in January and June this year and will not follow our trimester schedule.

Our emergency phone chain took place last evening, on December 6th. Please call the office if you did NOT receive a call. It is a convenience for you and an added reassurance to receive a call if school is cancelled or delayed for any reason.

The Home & School Santa Luncheon takes place this Saturday, December 10th from 12:00 to 2:00pm. Come join us for games, music, arts and crafts, balloons, and chances to win great gifts and door prizes. This year you can choose hot dogs or pizza. Of course, there will be the delicious brownies, chips, and juice included. Come and visit with Santa!

Our 5th through 8th Grade students will attend a special showing of *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe* at the Baederwood Theater. The students have all read the book with its themes of Christian values - courage, truthfulness, loyalty, sacrifice, forgiveness, and redemption - and it will be an exciting experience for them to have this opportunity to view the film with their classmates.

During the week of December 12th the first of two formal lessons will be presented to students in the Teaching Touching Safety program that was begun by the Archdiocese last year. In the spring of each year, feedback from teachers is sent to the Office of Catholic Education and the content of the lessons are updated for the next school year.

The Daughters of St. Paul presented their holiday book sale to students on Tuesday. They offer an excellent line of literature and religious themed selections that are often difficult to find at local book stores. Each student received an order form/wish list. If you would like to order any of the books

your student selected, please return the form with your payment by Monday, December 12th. Sisters Cynthia & Barbara will pick up the order forms and deliver the books on Thursday to the children. We're sorry, but no late orders will be accepted.

Carol Night takes place this Wednesday evening. This is an all school activity and the students have been preparing diligently to present this evening of caroling as a gift to you. If you have not returned your permission slip, please do so ASAP. Our last rehearsal is Tuesday morning and it is difficult for us to complete the staging aspect without knowing who will be in attendance. We will assume "yes" if we do not receive a response.

Don't forget to let us know your preference regarding the slack uniform option for girls. Please email us at ischool@comcast.net filling in "uniform" in the subject space or you may fill in the tear off sheet at the end of the notes and send your response in to school.

This is the last week to apply for financial aid - both BLOCS and Parish! BLOCS Educational Improvement Tax Credit (EITC) Student Aid Applications for the upcoming 2006-2007 school year are available by stopping by or calling the school office 215-887-1312. The grants are based on financial need and are limited to the funds available. The timeline has been changed this year, and runs from October 1, 2005 to December 16, 2005. Families who wish to attend Catholic school but would not otherwise be able to do so without receiving financial support are encouraged to apply to BLOCS. You do not have to be a current Catholic school family. Once BLOCS sends out initial awards letters in early February, our parish also announces their financial aid awards. The parish uses the BLOCS Student Aid Application results to determine its awards so it is very important, especially if you foresee or are experiencing financial difficulty, that you obtain, fill out, and submit an application. You will not receive financial aid if you do not apply for it.

8th Grade students all received a TAP (Tuition Assistance Program) financial aid application. This award may be used at any Archdiocesan High School next year and is renewable each year. Please adhere to the deadlines to insure your application is considered.

All volunteers, staff members, and teachers must have the necessary Child Abuse education and prevention paperwork in order to work with children. This includes a Police Check, Child Abuse Clearance and the Virtus Child Abuse Prevention Training. Please check www.archdiocese-phl.org to follow the dates, times and locations of future trainings. To register for training, you can register online at virtusonline.org or call 215-587-2466.

Family name
(optional) _____

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YES NO Girls' Pant option for Winter Uniforms. Circle your response.

Comments _____
