

Notes from Mrs. Greco  
January 18, 2007

Progress Reports go home today. We are half way through the 2<sup>nd</sup> trimester and our reports at this mid point are a way of communicating to you your child's achievement in a subject area. Please go over the report with your student and set reasonable goals based on the suggestions made by the teacher. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact your child's teacher to set up an appointment.

BLOCS applications for financial aid are online at our website or at your request we will send an application home to you. Business Leadership Organized for Catholic Schools (BLOCS) is the official state-approved Scholarship Organization for the Archdiocese of Philadelphia. As such, BLOCS is able to accept Educational Improvement Tax Credit (EITC) contributions for our schools. There is a substantial tax break (up to 90%) for businesses who donate through BLOCS. Additionally, the application is how Immaculate as a parish determines financial aid awards. Even if you do not receive an award through BLOCS, you are eligible for financial aid through the parish. **ALL APPLICATIONS MUST BE POSTMARKED BY FRIDAY, MARCH 16<sup>TH</sup>.** We do not award financial aid unless you have filled out a BLOCS application so you are encouraged to do so.

Important Notice to our PHILADELPHIA families: the Children's Scholarship Fund Philadelphia is entering its 6<sup>th</sup> year of local operation. To qualify for the scholarship, all applicants must be Philadelphia residents, with at least one child entering grades K-5<sup>th</sup> in fall 2007. Families must meet the income guidelines as outlined on the application form. The best way for families to get the application and fill it out, is to visit the website at: [www.csfphiladelphia.org](http://www.csfphiladelphia.org) and submit the application online. Please let us know if you need us to download an application for you. This is a lottery scholarship which lasts for 4 years! Due to staffing limitations, CSFP will only process and enter into the lottery, the first 4,000 applications received. 1000 new four-year awards are available starting in September 2007. The application deadline is March 1, 2007. Please fill it out TODAY! Only families that have "won" the lottery will be notified in mid-March.

*Save the Date:* On Sunday, January 28<sup>th</sup>, we will open Catholic Schools Week with a family Mass at 9:30am. Our Open House immediately follows with refreshments, open classrooms and special programs/projects on display. We will have specific information for incoming Kindergarten students and parents so help us to spread the word if you know of families interested in a parish Catholic education. We look forward to seeing you and appreciate your help in our celebration of Catholic Schools Week. Our schedule and a request for refreshments are with today's communication.

Thank you for supporting our paper recycling. The dumpster is located in the Church parking lot and we encourage you to recycle. During the months of January to March, we are part of a contest to see how many tons we can collect and recycle. There are cash rewards for the school if we are a winner. Don't throw that paper away. Think about the amount of landfill space we are saving, too! We still recycle cell phones, inkjet and laser cartridges, too. Our last reimbursement was over \$100 so recycling pays!

Keep an eye out for CD order forms of our Christmas Concert. CDs will be priced at \$20 each. We are able to keep the cost down because we preorder so when the order form comes out, be sure to respond promptly. We are all anxious to hear the finished product. (We've had a preview - you won't be disappointed.)

Our Music Theatre Club's cast party is scheduled for Friday, March 2<sup>nd</sup> from 8:30 to 9:30pm in the school cafeteria. We are in need of 8<sup>th</sup> grade parent volunteers to plan, set up and break down. Contact Kathy Judge 215-886-2684 or email: [fivejudges@netzero.com](mailto:fivejudges@netzero.com).

Home & School will be the host for Social Sunday this week after all the masses. Please stop by after mass for some coffee and refreshments - and just to say hello! The association is also sponsoring Molly Kelly in an address that is specifically geared to parents at the next Home & School meeting. The presentation begins at 7:00pm in the school cafeteria on Wednesday, January 24<sup>th</sup>.

We are joining with PREP students for an Emergency Baby Formula Collection. There is always a need especially over the winter months. Please check the flyer for details.

There are many important items of information today. Please check your envelope and the website:

Progress Reports.

All School Open House request for help.

Molly Kelly flyer.

Catholic Schools Week letter and schedule.

BLOCS Application is online.

2 Lunch envelopes and February Lunch menus.

Junior CYO Sandwich Program & Old St. Joe's Carewalk.