

Notes from Mrs. Greco
January 25, 2007

Congratulations to our Forensics team members who participated in the St. Joseph's Prep Forensics Tournament: Dan Brennan, Carlee Cantwell, Laura Clay, Bridget Frasca, Molly Gardiner, Veronica Hopkins, and Joe Lukach. Carlee placed 2nd and Bridget and Molly both reached the semi-finals in the Poetry category; and Laura was awarded Honorable Mention in the Impromptu category. Great job! Thank you, Mrs. Hagarty.

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 may be eligible for financial aid through the parish. ALL APPLICATIONS MUST BE POSTMARKED BY FRIDAY, MARCH 16TH. 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 6th year of local operation. To qualify for the scholarship, all applicants must be Philadelphia residents, with at least one child entering grades K-5th 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.csphiladelphia.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.

Catholic Schools Week begins this weekend. On Sunday, January 28th, 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 request for refreshments is online and we always need volunteers to help during the Open House itself. If you have questions or would like to volunteer, please call Cathy Cawley at 215-886-3845 or Joann Treacy at 215-886-2165. Thank you!

CD order forms of our Christmas Concert are online. CDs are priced at \$20 each. You won't be disappointed!

Catholic Social Services is looking for single or married adults to become foster parents to children of all ages and races. There is a special need for families who can provide care to Teenagers - a population that needs love, guidance, and support as they move into adulthood. Catholic Social Services provides professional training, support, financial reimbursement and parochial school tuition to foster children. To learn more about becoming a foster parent, please call Melissa at 215-587-2458.

Please check your envelope or the website for:

All School Open House request for help.
BLOCS Application is online.
Christmas Concert CD order form.