

**Notes from Mrs. Greco**  
**March 1, 2007**

*IMPORTANT CALENDAR and TIME CHANGES TO NOTE:*

We are changing our registration dates for current families for the school year 2007-2008. ALL registrations (new and current families) will take place during the last week in March (March 26-30). Our new families will be placed on a waiting list in order to give priority to current families. This change is being made in order to present new tuition rates at our March 21<sup>st</sup> Home & School meeting at 7:00pm.

Please note the time change for Sunday because many of our performers are committed to an Archdiocesan Band event earlier in the day. The *Magical Land of Oz* will be performed on Sunday evening, March 4<sup>th</sup> at 8:00pm. We welcome you to join us! The students are fabulous!

We are pleased to inform you that Immaculate Conception was a recipient of the **Catholic Schools for Tomorrow Award for Innovations in Education**. The national award annually honors 12 Catholic elementary and secondary schools that have led the way by implementing exemplary, innovative programs to improve the teaching and learning of their students, faculty, and staff. Awards will be presented at a special celebration banquet in Baltimore on April 12<sup>th</sup>. We are featured in this month's issue of the national magazine *Today's Catholic Teacher*. Our Art Workshop led by Mrs. Cipolla was the innovative project recognized in the category of promoting Catholic identity. Thank you, Mrs. Cipolla and our accomplished artists for producing works of art that are permanently installed in our building as a constant reminder of the message of our Catholic faith!

Our 8<sup>th</sup> grade students have also begun working with our artist in residence, Carol Stirton-Broad. The clay press is set up and during the months of March and April students will be working on ceramic tiles that will be added to our ceramic tile montage in the cafeteria. The title of this grant project is: *Learning how our Cultural Heritage built the United States*.

Our School Counselor is including a flyer with today's communication. Please take the time to read this valuable information. You never know when it will come in handy.

Spring outfits, Lenten meals, Easter goodies, vacations - all have something in common: *SCRIP!* Don't forget to buy your scrip available in the rectory or you can order through school. An order form is included today.

Safety note: When dropping students off in the morning PLEASE DO NOT pass another vehicle or drive between a car and a bus. Children are exiting the bus and the rules of the road apply in our parking lot, too!

The deadline for filling out BLOCS applications for financial aid is quickly approaching. 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 16<sup>TH</sup>. We do not award financial aid from the parish unless you have filled out a BLOCS application so you are encouraged to do so.

Please check your envelope or the website for these important items of communication:

2 Lunch Envelopes

New Pretzel Orders for Kindergarten only and Grades 1-8

CYO Spring Sports information

CYO Track & Field flyer

BLOCS Application is online.