

January 6, 2011
Notes from Dr. Greco

Please note that this week's communication will be the last "full hard copy" communication you will receive. In our efforts to conserve resources, "Notes" will be emailed to you on Thursdays and flyers will be posted on the website, www.icsjenkintown.org.

We extend our condolences and ask your prayers for Mary Kate McGoldrick's (gr. 7) paternal grandmother, Marguerite McGoldrick, whose Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated November 10th.

On Friday, January 7th, a funeral Mass will be held for Deacon Clay's mother-in-law, Margaret Hayes. Please remember the Clay family in your prayers as they celebrate Mrs. Hayes' life.

Choral Group will begin practice on Wednesday, January 12th. Miss "D" has an exciting "Musical Review" planned. Please read more details in the flyer enclosed as you consider this opportunity. Choral Group is an extracurricular school group and there is no "cost" for this activity other than student commitment. Practices will be held every Wednesday beginning January 12 through March 23rd (including March 2nd which is a school day off). The only exception will be *no practice* on Ash Wednesday, March 9th.

While appreciating the efficiency and expediency of email messages, please keep in mind that schools are not "typical" office settings. As a teaching facility our first priority is our involvement with students so we may not "get to" an email message until it is too late. A "break" in our day to check email may not occur until the end of the day. If your message to us needs to be timely, please call the office, or in cases of a change in transportation, please use our purple transportation change form. It ends up being the most efficient.

Snow may be coming on Friday. Please remember that we have an emergency phone chain in effect. (It is most important that all callers complete their calls.) Announcements are made on KYW Radio, Channel 6, Fox News, Channel 3, and an email is also sent out to all families.

Our Home & School Association will be sponsoring a Gianni's fundraiser just in time for your Super Bowl parties. A brochure is included today. Your support is appreciated. We intentionally limit our fundraising efforts but 100% participation is key to our fundraisers being successful in maintaining a level of funding that goes directly to our students' needs. Thank you for your help.

Important information to Philadelphia families with children in our school:

Children's Scholarship Fund Philadelphia is accepting applications for 750 new, K-8th grade scholarships for Philadelphia children. The application process is free and easy to complete. Now is the time to act. The application deadline is March 1st. These need-based scholarships are available to students entering grades K-8th in September 2011 and are awarded by random lottery. There are 750 new scholarships available for a maximum funding amount of \$2,075 per year, per child. To be eligible, families must: meet income requirements, be residents of Philadelphia, have a child entering grades K-8th in fall 2011 and complete the required essay question. The easiest and quickest way for families to submit an application is online at www.csfphiladelphia.org. Only families who are awarded scholarship opportunities will be notified by mail, in mid-March. Please call the office if you have any questions. This is an increase in the number of scholarships available and I encourage you to apply if you qualify.

Important information to ALL families with children in our school regarding the BLOCS Scholarship and financial aid from Immaculate Conception Parish:

The BLOCS Scholarship Application will be available for downloading, at www.BLOCS.org, beginning January 15, 2011. Parents must get their scholarship applications to PSAS no later than April 15, 2011. There will be no grace period this year. A third party service, Private School Aid Service (PSAS), performs a need analysis on all applicants, to ensure fairness in the award process. After we receive our award report (June 30th or earlier), our parish uses the PSAS needs analysis to award our separate scholarship funds. All families must submit a BLOCS application in order to be considered for financial aid from Immaculate Conception parish.

FYI:

Pajama Tag Day will be held on Thursday, January 13th.

Our Paper Recycling Bin no longer accepts cardboard, phone books, or colored wrapping paper but we welcome your junk mail, magazines, and office paper discards.

Good News! Target scrip is now available in denominations of \$25 and \$100.

Included today:

- **ICS Musical Review flyer.**
- **Gianni's sales brochure.**
- **Tuition statements included for ALL families today. Please remember the importance of adhering to due dates for tuition payments.**
- **February lunch menus and 4 lunch envelopes.**
- **Family Talk.**