



JUST A REMINDER: THERE IS NO JOHNSTON BUSSING FOR TOMORROW AND NEXT MONDAY & TUESDAY!

Dear Parents,

Our time in the season of Advent is moving quickly. This week we embrace “Joy” represented by the third candle and the only one that is rose. I was once told that the three letters that make up the word **JOY** can teach us all we need to know about how to live a Christian life. By putting **J**esus first, **O**thers second and **Y**ourself third, we are truly “preparing the way of the Lord”.

“Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind regain their sight, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have the good news proclaimed to them.” – Matthew 11:4-5

Congratulations...



To all of our students for the amazing Christmas Program they put on in church yesterday. The hard work they put in to preparing for this program was evident in all they did. Special thanks to Mrs. Rachdouni, our music teacher, for preparing the students so well. I would also like to thank Mrs. Rodi for donating her time to assist the students on piano. You can expect this Christmas gift from our students to their parents to be sent home next week.



Important Information...

At the Governor’s press briefing yesterday, new guidance was shared for the state of Rhode Island. The new guidance goes into effect on Monday, December 20th. Nurse Cheryl shares all up-to-date Health information with our families each week in her “Nurse’s Corner”. This week there will be additional attachments and guidance from Nurse Cheryl. Please read this information carefully. I am so grateful to Nurse Cheryl for all of her time, dedication and professionalism in keeping our school community safe.

When we return...

We will begin weekly COVID-19 testing on Monday, January 3rd for any students who have returned a permission slip. A hard copy of the one-time permission slip was sent home with your child today.

Our students in grades PreK3 and PreK4 will follow the mask guidance put out by RIDOH and be required to wear masks anywhere inside the building.

Tomorrow...

Our students in PreK4-4th Grade will enjoy time at the Winter Wonderland with their class in Café Rocco. Our Middle School students will have their Winter Wonderland activity afterschool. Thank you to the Parent Association and all of the volunteers for sponsoring this event for our students.

May Advent continue to be a blessed time for all of our St. Rocco School families.

Respectfully,

Regina M. Hand / Principal

An Advent Prayer



During this third week of Advent, let us pray:

O God of wonder,
as we are busy preparing for Christmas,
help us prepare our hearts for Jesus.
We are grateful for your simple words of hope
and the gift of new life in the Christ child.



May we follow
the true light of Jesus
that shines for all people
through the darkness of sin and sorrow.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Classroom News

MIDDLE SCHOOL ELA & LITERATURE ~ MISS TRIPP

We have had a great year so far in middle school Literature and ELA! It has been so nice to get to know the sixth grade students as this is my first year having them. To start our year off we read *Anne Frank* the play where we learned all about Nazi Germany as well as the elements of a play. Students also wrote their own diary through the point of view of a member of the Secret Annex, we even included the cat! Now we have moved on to reading *Refugee* by Alan Gratz. We are learning about three different refugee situations in three different stages of history. We are excited to continue reading and learn how they may all be connected. In ELA students have been hard at work exploring all the different aspects of adjectives.

In 7th grade, we wasted no time and jumped right into our first book of the year with Malala Yousafzai's memoir *I am Malala*. Students learned about the basics of Islam as well as the geography of Swat Valley and the courage that Malala displayed when standing up to the Taliban. After Malala we moved into a light and fun novel *Stargirl* by Jerri Spinelli. We are still early in and are continuing to make predictions about who Stargirl really is and what she is all about. We are also moving right along with our grammar and have just finished up pronouns!



For 8th Grade, we are right in the middle of Reading *Romeo and Juliet*, the graphic novel version. Students have enjoyed being assigned roles and reading their parts. While we all know the outcome of these two star crossed lovers we are still intrigued to find out just how everything unfolds. 8th grade is now in the middle of our unit on verbs and we are working very hard!

I am looking forward to another great year and all of the exciting things we will be doing!

Grade 8 News ~ St. Rocco School is in the process of sending out the student's transcripts to the appropriate schools of their choosing. Any questions, feel free to reach out to Miss Tripp.

Monthly Dress Down Passes



Each month throughout the school year, St. Rocco School will be offering special dress down passes for the month. You may purchase the monthly passes for January ~ Mondays only for the cost of \$5.00. Deadline for January Passes is December 17th. Please place the money in a clearly labeled envelope with the required form your Child's name, grade, along with your payment. (Checks ONLY)

Financial Aid -Applications for financial aid for the 2022-2023 school year have started. You can apply by going on to the FACTS management website. In addition, in order to receive parishioner rate for the 2022-2023 school year, you must have contributed \$250.00 to St. Rocco Church by December 31, 2021 to receive parishioner rate.

Celebrates the



- December 16, 17, 20 & 21 Christmas Spirit Dress
- Friday, December 17th **Make-up Picture Day (Full Dress Uniform Required)**
- Friday, December 17th Winter Wonderland Event
- Tuesday, December 21st **NO 7:30AM SRS HONOR SOCIETY MEETING**
- Tuesday, December 21st Full Day of School/No Aftercare
- December 22nd-31st Christmas Break
- Monday, January 3rd Back to School from Christmas Break



Virtue of the Month-Charity

Now the end of the commandment is charity out of a pure heart,
and of a good conscience,
And of faith unfeigned. 1 Timothy 1:5

is the Reason for this school.

-in our minds, on our lips, and always in our hearts-

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