



Tiger Connection

Saint Henry School

Tuesday, December 15, 2009

Principal's Message

Dear Parents:

It was wonderful to see so many of you at the Christmas Concert and Kindergarten Christmas program last week. The children's performances were not only delightful, but a beautiful way to prepare our heart for the celebration of the birth of Jesus. I am grateful to the children for their hard work to bring the joy and excitement of Christmas to each of us. I am especially grateful to our music teachers, Miss Erin Higgins, Miss Rachel Burkey, and Mr. Jeff Schletzer for their many hours of preparation with the children to help us all enter more deeply into Christmas.

My prayer for all of us is that Christ's love and peace will reign in your families this Christmas season as we celebrate the birth of the King of Love. You will all be remembered in my prayers during Christmas Mass at the Motherhouse, please remember the entire Saint Henry School family in your prayers as well.

In the Infant Jesus,

Sister Ann Hyacinth, O.P.
Principal

Happy Anniversary – This Friday our pastor Father Mike Johnston celebrates his 39th anniversary of ordination to the priesthood! May God continue to bless him for his fidelity and sacrifice of self for our good.

Early Dismissal on Friday

Just a reminder, we will have an 11:30 dismissal on Friday. This will be our last day until January 4, 2010 when we resume school after the Christmas holidays.

All School Mass - Mass is Friday, December 18th instead of Wednesday. We will celebrate Mass as a community before leaving for the Christmas break.

Diocesan Christmas Card –Congratulations to 8th grader Savannah Crow. Savannah's Christmas drawing was chosen for the cover of the diocesan Christmas card.

After Christmas Reminder - Students are going to be excited to share some of their new Christmas gifts with their classmates when they return from break. Teachers

will be reminding students not to bring items that are against school policy or items they would be upset about if the items were damaged or lost. We would appreciate your help at home to reinforce this reminder. If you address the issue early it will allow teachers to focus on academics rather than policing contraband materials that are obstacles to academic integrity. Thank you!

Safety Alert!

Your undivided attention is needed in two different areas during dismissal to help protect the children of Saint Henry.

➤**Cell Free Zone** – We have noticed continued use of cell phone in the dismissal area. Please make sure to communicate to any other family members picking up students to refrain from using cell phones while driving in the dismissal area. It only takes a second to look away at a phone and not see a child crossing the street. Also be conscience of driving slowly during this time. Thank you!!

➤**Dismissal Time is a No Play Zone**

Once students are released to your care it is important for parents to remain vigilant in supervision. Children should refrain from playing ball or any kind of activity that could endanger them during this busy time in the parking lot. The children's safety is everyone's first priority. The parking lot needs to be a "No Play Zone".

Registration 2010-2011

Registration forms and subsidy card for the 2010-2011 school year will be sent home the week of January 11th. Please refer to the school handbook on page 28 for information on subsidy requirements. Make sure you keep looking in the Tiger Connection for more information.

Financial Assistance

Starting in January you will be able to sign up for financial assistance. **The deadline is March 12th.** Financial assistance is dependent on meeting the March 12th deadline. More information to come in the January Tiger Connection.

Kindergarten Christmas Program

Thanks to all who helped with refreshments for the Kindergarten Christmas program. The students did a fabulous job as only 5 year olds can do. Special thanks go

to Erin Higgins and the kindergarten teachers and aides for all of their hard work.

Thanks for the Generosity

On behalf of the many agencies that we collected items for this Christmas season, we thank you once again for your generosity. We are always so grateful and overwhelmed with the generous response of our Saint Henry families to the needs of others.

Food Pantry - The Saint Henry food pantry is continuing to support those in need at the Assumption's food pantry in North Nashville. There is an extra need during this time of year and with the continuing economic crisis. Food donation to the Saint Henry food pantry and Assumption would be greatly appreciated. Donations may be brought to the school by Friday, December 18th.

Basketball Games – There were a few irregularities in the gym after Saturday basketball recently. Coaches supervise players while playing and we ask parents to please keep a close eye on your children who are playing and those who are watching the games. Thank you for your cooperation.

Confirmation - Parent Meeting is Monday, January 11th at 7:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Confirmation retreat is Thursday, January 28th at Saint Cecilia Motherhouse.

Cold Weather Clothing - A winter reminder - Encourage your child to bring and wear proper cold weather clothing during the coming months. Hats, scarves, mittens and coats, ensure students may go outside and enjoy their recess.

Exams - Exams for 6th-8th grade will begin the week of December 14th. Please make sure your child has plenty of sleep and a good breakfast.

Loveless Café - The 8th graders will be going to the Loveless Café for their Christmas Breakfast on December 18th at 9:00 a.m.

Report Cards - Student report cards will be sent home on Tuesday, January 12th after Christmas break.

Witness of the Week - PreK-4th grade Witness of the Week is Riley Rayhab in Mrs. Gaughan's 4th grade class. Riley was involved in a difficult situation for which he was asked to apologize to a fellow classmate. Riley showed his classmates that by saying you're sorry and then correcting your actions is a wonderful quality to have. Witness of the Week for 5th-8th grade is Luke Foreman in Mrs. Smith's 8th grade class. Luke showed his classmates how easy it is to help other people. Instead of playing football in the morning with his friends, Luke will stop what he is doing and help whenever asked with a cheerful spirit!

Children's Mass

At the beginning of the 4:00 Vigil Mass on Christmas Eve there will be an opportunity for children to take part in a procession of angels and shepherds followed by singing Silent Night. Those wishing to take part in this need to be **age 4** or older and attend the practice at 10:00 a.m. on Monday, December 21st in the Church. Be prepared to provide your own angel or shepherd costumes. For questions, call Paula Proctor in the Church office.

Thank You

To all the Home and School members for their extra efforts during this busy time of year!

To Jeff Schletzer for his continued commitment to the children of Saint Henry involved in our band program. The students recently played for the residents of Mary Queen of Angels.

To the parents who chaperoned the field trip to Mary Queen of Angels.

Calendar items

January 1 – Solemnity of Mary Mother of God – A holy day of obligation. Check your parish bulletin for Mass times.

January 4 – School Resumes

January 12 – Report cards sent home via Tuesday Folders

Save the Date – **February 5th** is our Faith Rally. We will be soliciting volunteers after the first of the year!

Box Tops For Education

Remember to keep clipping and collecting box tops from family and friends that you may see over the holidays! We are halfway to our goal of \$3,000 cash collected from this program. Turn your trash to cash for Saint Henry. The next contest is for a Cupcake and Ice cream Sweet Treat Party just in time for Valentine's Day. This contest will award TWO class winners. One contest will be for Pre-K through 3rd grade. The second contest will be 4th grade through 8th grade. This contest will end on Friday, February 5. HAPPY CHRISTMAS CLIPPING!

Uniform - Christmas break is a good opportunity to clean out old items. Please take time during break to look over student uniforms. Our children grow quickly and therefore outgrow their uniforms. Please pay particular attention to skirt length, snug shirts, short pants, and torn or ripped items. Break is also a good time to receive a regulation hair cut! We want students to continue to form good habits of dress and appearance. Uniform issues of safety are of particular importance. Consult your parent/student handbook for particular questions.