

THERE WILL BE NO EXTENDED DAY PROGRAM ON DECEMBER 21st.

December 4, 2007

Dear Families,

This week we celebrate the beginning of the Advent season—a time when we pay special attention to the “grace of God” in our midst. Within our families and classrooms, our workplaces and playgrounds, the love of God is present; in every relationship, in every decision, in every conflict, the Spirit of God moves and prompts us to what is right and just. May the presence of God be born again and again in each one of us in the days ahead.

As you notice above, we have a 12:30 dismissal on Friday, December 21st. There will be NO EXTENDED DAY PROGRAM on that day. All students must be picked up promptly at 12:30. No faculty or staff members will begin their Christmas break at 12:30 on that day. Please plan ahead for childcare if you need it.

On Thursday of this week, our 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students will be sharing their Science Fair Projects in the cafeteria from 12:30 through the end of the school day. Hopefully, your child has spent a great deal of time researching the question that s(he) wanted to explore. The results of that research will be demonstrated on Thursday. Thanks to Ms. Padilla for her commitment to a hands-on approach to science. Science is a challenging area of study requiring a great deal of reading about concepts that will be covered throughout the year at all grade levels. That reading builds background knowledge in each student and prepares them to do more in-depth research at the middle school level. Our Patrons Grant contains money for rich reading material in the areas of science and social studies—not textbooks but non-fiction books that cover topics of interest at all grade levels. Teachers are beginning the selection process for those reading materials across all levels.

Next week—December 14th—will be a Cafeteria Special Day. Money should be in the office by Wednesday of next week.

Are you aware that if your child receives Title I services from the Title I teacher in our building, your child is eligible to receive counseling services through Catholic Charities. They provide counseling for academic and behavioral needs. The counseling is at no cost to the family. We have a few spots open in the event that you feel your child might benefit from such services. We are definitely privileged to have such an opportunity as this. We also have a counseling program with Catholic Charities that sends a counselor to our school to see students. This program does require families to pay on a sliding fee scale. No child will be denied the services due to money. Please call me if you would like more information.

PROGRESS REPORTS for the first five weeks of the second quarter will be sent home with each child on Friday, December 7th of this week. Please look at them carefully. If you wish to talk with the teacher, please feel free to call and request a phone conference or a conference here at school. You may also communicate with your child’s teacher by e-mail. Please call our office if your child does NOT bring you their progress report on Friday.

Our CHRISTMAS PROGRAM will be held on Wednesday, December 19th in the church at 1:30 in the afternoon. We will dismiss from the church at 2:40. You are certainly invited to join us in that celebration on that day. Each classroom will be performing a special song that they have chosen. The Nativity Scene will be enacted by our Pre K children.

We send you BLESSINGS of health and peace!

Ms. Barbara C. Lee