

January 4, 2012

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Welcome back and Happy New Year to each and every one of you. I pray that this year will bring you good health and happiness. Thank you again to all of you for your generosity to me at Christmas.

Congratulations to the students and teachers for the fabulous job that they did with the Christmas show. St. Stephen School is blessed to have such outstanding talented students. Thanks to all of you for your understanding with the lack of seats that evening. I am constantly on the lookout for additional chairs to purchase for an evening such as this.

If you have not returned your intent form for the 2012-2013 school year, you should do so right away. No money is needed at this time. We want only to secure a place for your child on our class lists. Those of you who will be requesting financial aid should be filling out the paperwork on line through SMART Tuition. No aid can be given without submitting this paperwork. If you need a paper form, contact the office. The tuition amounts for next year should be published next week after the School Board meeting.

The weather has started to be typically winter-like. For your child to be allowed outside for recess, he/she must wear a coat, hat and gloves. Also, their sweater is a required part of their uniform. Students without sweaters will receive a uniform violation. The same restriction holds true for the gym uniform. The winter uniform should be worn for gym as well. I appreciate your help with this.

The schedule for Catholic Schools Week will be given to you in next week's envelope. Please take the time to read through it carefully. Many of the events are familiar to you, but a few extras have been added that will be of interest to you.

The school is in desperate need of lunch time volunteers to help the teachers with supervising the students while they eat their lunch, handing out lunches and selling snacks and cleaning the tables. If you can spare at least 2 hours per week contact Donna Catrino to volunteer.

When dropping your child off in the morning, pull up to the front door and allow your child to exit from the passenger side of the car. Some parents have allowed their child/children to get out on the driver's side creating an extremely dangerous situation. All drivers should wait their turn in line and not pass a car that is dropping off a child. Children should not be dropped off at the end of the sidewalk either.

If your child received a deficiency notice before Christmas, contact your child's teacher or teachers to see what can be done to help them improve academically. It takes a team effort to insure success.

Additionally, on Friday, January 6th, there will be a dance for grades 6-8 from 7-10 PM. Permission slips have been given out. Any student who is academically ineligible will not be allowed to attend the dance.

Several phones have been going off in school. When this happens it is disruptive and requires the teacher to take the phone and send it to the office. A parent is required to pick it up there. Due to this, the form that is in this envelope that must be filled out if your child will be bringing a phone to school. Please fill it out and return it no later than Monday, January 9, 2012.

Thank you for your constant support of St. Stephen's School and me in my position as principal. God bless you and your family.

Sincerely,

Patricia Higgins, M.A. ED
Principal