



Saint Francis of Assisi School

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November 1, 2007

Dear Parent(s) Legal Guardian(s),

Since the days are getting colder, I would like to remind everyone that the children should come with the proper clothing each day. Coats, hats, and mittens or gloves are necessary on these days and will allow the children to comfortably participate in outdoor activities, including gym classes and recess.

I am happy to inform you that the ground breaking ceremony for the parish elevator is scheduled for Saturday, Nov 3rd, at 11:30 AM. Cardinal Sean O'Malley and Fr. Sepe will lead those in attendance in prayer and the Cardinal will bless the worksite. Light refreshments will be served in the church hall after the ceremony. Please be assured that the construction will not affect the daily operation of the school arrival and/or dismissal, as the work is contained to the church area with the apparatus being parked at a designated area.

Last Thursday, we had the initial meeting with the chair of the NEASC accreditation team and I am happy to report that he was more than pleased with our self-study progress. We are looking forward to the completion of the self-study and to the actual four day visit in April of 2008. Next Monday and Tuesday the children will not have Italian as Miss Marrone our Italian teacher, is attending a conference in Argentina. She was chosen to represent 1st generation Italians from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

Halloween Party: Our annual Halloween Party was held on Saturday, October 27th, in Saint Francis of Assisi School Hall. A special thank you goes out to the many volunteers who helped make it a success and to Mrs. Maureen Gattine and Mrs. Kathy Carpenter, our chairwomen. A fantastic time was had by all!

Report Cards: On November 6th report cards will be distributed to grades 5 – 8. Parent/Teacher Conferences for grades 7 & 8 will be held on Wednesday, November 7th and for grades 5 & 6 on Thursday, November 8th. Children in grades 5 – 8 ONLY, will be dismissed at 11:30 A.M. on Thursday, November 8th. Buses will comply with our schedule. Extended Day Program will be available.

On Wednesday, November 14th, report cards will be distributed to grades K – 4. Pre-K will receive progress reports. Conferences for Pre-K – 4 will be held Thursday, November 15th. Children in grades Pre-K – 4 ONLY, will be dismissed at 11:30 A.M. Thursday, November 15th. Buses will comply with our schedule. Extended Day Program will be available.

Report cards will not be distributed unless families are in good financial standing. Any questions please contact Mrs. DeBenedictis directly.

Windy City Players: On Wednesday, November 7th, the Windy City Players will perform “Cinderella” for Grades Pre-K – 8.

Grade 2 Parent Sacrament Meeting: On November 8 at 7:30 P.M. a meeting will be held in the church hall. The topic is preparing your child for the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

O’Connor Studios: Photographers from O’Connor Studios will visit Saint Francis of Assisi School for absentees, makeup photos, and Grade 8 cap and gown photos on Wednesday, November 14th.

School Liturgy: Friday, November 16th is the day for our monthly school liturgy at 8:45 A.M. in Saint Francis of Assisi Church. Please join us as we come together each month for liturgy and afterwards to the school for refreshments. The rosary is prayed before each Mass at 8:20 A.M.

Penance Service: A Family Penance Service for grades 3 – 8 will be held on Friday, November 16th at 7:00 P.M. in SFA Church. This is a great opportunity to come together and make this a family evening of prayer.

Holiday Cards: Within the next few weeks the Holiday Raffle Cards will be sent home. Remember, this is an annual major fundraiser and, as you well know, the funds directly benefit your children (new textbooks, new desks, etc.).

School Hours: The doors of the school are opened at 7:40 A.M. Before this time, there is no supervision.

Guidance Department: Miss Craven is planning for a parent meeting November 28th. The topic will be “Setting Limits.” Please view her website for specifics

Arrival and Dismissal Procedures: Parents are asked not to pick up or drop off on Tenney Rd. as the buses drop off on this side. Drop off and pick up for students is on **Washington St. only.**

I am also reminding everyone that state law requires drivers to stop when a school bus has flashing red lights and the stop sign is out. I have witnessed several people breaking the law. This is the final warning; the local police will be notified of individuals breaking state law. Remember, our job here at Saint Francis of Assisi is to not only educate but also to keep children safe. It is imperative that we all work together for this common goal. I am also concerned as to the message we are sending children!

Thank you parents: for all the hard work you do, especially those volunteering with the book fair, fundraising, lunch, etc.

With a grateful heart and prayers,

Mrs. Vittoria DeBenedictis